THE TIMES

30P

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MONDAY JANUARY 22 1996

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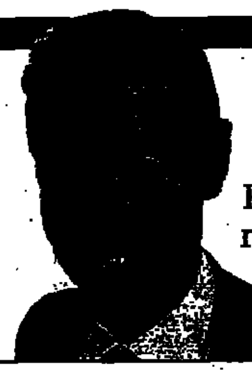

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Short denounces 'elite' grammars

Labour rift over Harman school choice

By Jill Sherman and John O'Leary

A SHADOW CABINET row erupted last night over Harriet Harman's decision to go against Labour Party policy and send one of her children to a selective grammar school.

Clare Short, Shadow Transport Secretary, said Ms Harman, Shadow Health Secretary, "must answer to her constituents" over choosing to send her son Joseph to St Olave's School in Orpington, south London — reputedly one of England's most selective schools.

At the same time she bitterly denounced the system of selective schools which catered for an "elite few" while "writing off most children for a future of unskilled work".

Ms Short's intervention is likely to infuriate the Labour leadership and is bound to be exploited by the Tories in today's debate on the Education Bill.

In recent months, Mr Blair has already had to call her in to reprimand her after she said in a television interview that Labour should consider legalising cannabis.

Brian Mawhinney, Conservative Party Chairman, described Ms Harman's decision as another example of Labour MPs not practising what they preach. He said: "At the heart of this is the total confusion in the Labour Party about how to create a better future and education system for our children."

Labour's embarrassment over selective schooling will deepen today with a Harris poll showing that most voters favour a return to grammars and that Labour's own rating on education has fallen.

Short: selective shools "write off children"

Mr Blair refused to be drawn into the row last night although David Blunkett confirmed Labour's opposition to selection and ruled out a return to the 11-plus.

The Shadow Education Secretary dismissed grammar schools as an "irrelevance" but told *The Times*: "There are only 160 grammar schools. Their future is in the hands of local people. We will give the right to decide to those whose children will be involved."

Mr Blair, who created a party dispute by deciding to send his son Euan to a grant-maintained school — when Labour was opposed to opted-out schools — is said to be reasonably relaxed about Ms Harman's decision. But privately, other Shadow Cabinet ministers were furious, saying it could not have come at a worse moment with the party trying to turn the focus on to government education policy.

Speaking on GMTV's *Sunday* programme, Ms Short said the old yearning for selection for some, rather than improvements in standards for all, would not serve the country's children. She said that having made the decision, Ms Harman must "answer to her constituents for it", adding: "Having an elite that do well educationally and writing off most children for a future of unskilled work will not do any more."

Leftwingers were also angry about Ms Harman defying party policy. "I think it's a major error of judgement because the Labour Party is quite clear that there should be no selection going into these schools," said Ken Livingstone, MP for Brent East.

"That's fine if you're an ordinary family but if you've chosen to put yourself into the next Labour government and are a leading figure in the Labour Party campaigning against this — I think it's an impossible contradiction to take the decision she has," he told LWT's *Crosstalk*.

Tony Banks, Labour MP for Newham North West, was also critical yesterday, saying: "If senior Labour politicians are sending their kids outside the local authority they are saying local schools are not good enough for their kids. If they are not good enough for their kids, they aren't good enough for anyone's kids."

Baroness Williams, who fell foul of Labour activists over

Continued on page 2, col 3
Leader and letters, p17

Steve Nicholson and Caroline Harrison in a photograph sent to Caroline's parents. It was taken on their travels before the ill-fated ferry trip

Ferry survivor tells of fight in water

By Tim Jones

A BRITISH backpacker, Steve Nicholson, one of only 39 people to survive a weekend ferry disaster in Indonesia, described yesterday how he and his girlfriend had dodged debris and bodies in the water for 20 hours before being rescued.

Mr Nicholson broke down as he told of his escape and his spontaneous proposal of marriage to his long-term girlfriend, Caroline Harrison, also 34, as they clung to a lifejacket in the water.

Caroline said the proposal was quite unexpected. "I just wanted to make it through so we could be together." She had not yet thought about wedding plans " but I imagine it will be quite soon".

The pair, from southeast London, had been travelling in Australia and Asia. They were two of 11 westerners on the ferry *Gurita*, which sank on Friday night. An estimated 300 on board, nearly all local people travelling home for the festival of Ramadan, died.

The drama happened as the vessel travelled between Sumatra and the island of We. Mr Nicholson said: "From when I first realised there was a problem to when the boat went down there was only about three minutes. We were both inside the boat when it started to roll from side to side like a pendulum.

"These ferries are just like iron blocks with windows. When they go, they go and this one was jam-packed. I said to Caroline on the second roll, there is a problem. This thing is going to go, you'd better go out on deck.

"There was an atmosphere of pre-panic — everyone looking terrified, wide-eyed, mouths open — and then it went crazy. Caroline was outside near the railing and I was inside trying to get a lifejacket.

"I could not believe it. Men were jumping all over women and children to get to the lifejackets. It was a disgusting sight. I stood there watching people fighting over 15 lifejackets and I knew I was not going to get one.

"Caroline was screaming Steve, you've got to come now, it's going to go. She jumped off and swam away from the boat. I ran for the door. That was when the boat rolled all the way over. It filled with water completely in seconds.

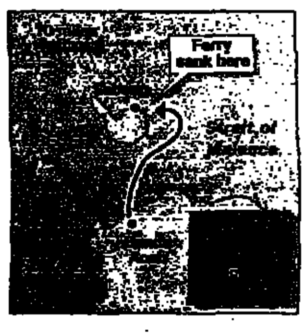
"I kept my eyes shut because I was worried about losing my contact lenses. I lost one. I swam around for a bit and found a door. I was still inside the boat and managed to swim out of a window.

"When I popped up and broke through the water somebody was already up there. He was distressed and obviously drowning. He grabbed me and I felt myself being pulled under the water again. He had hold of the chain around my neck and was not going to let go."

Mr Nicholson broke down as he told how he had to shake the desperate man off in order to survive: "There was a scuffle under the water. The chain broke from around my neck and I managed to come up. I am finding that really difficult to deal with."

He struggled free and started searching for Caroline. "I thought, where is Caroline, and started screaming. I heard her screaming for me.

"It was like something out of a fantasy film, like a Steven Spielberg scene. The boat's lights were shining under the water, lighting everything up in an eerie glow. People were splashing about everywhere, screaming and wailing. There were shoes and clothes everywhere. Some people had clambered on the bottom of the boat, still just above the surface of the water. They were praying and singing, then the boat just went down."



The couple stayed together and clung to bits of debris to

Continued on page 2, col 5

Britain in grip of second cold spell

By Helen Johnstone

BRITAIN is facing its second cold snap of the winter with temperatures likely to remain around freezing in most of the country for the next few days.

Snow is forecast for North East England and eastern Scotland as bitterly cold winds sweep in from eastern Europe.

The London Weather Centre said the wind chill factor would make it feel much colder, as low as -5C (23F). Coastal areas would feel particularly cold. Sleet and snow fell in the Midlands yesterday and 30mph limits were imposed on the M5.

The AA said it was ready for a deluge of calls from owners of broken-down cars. Flat batteries and frozen engines were the most common cause of breakdown in cold weather, a spokeswoman said.

"Cars should be fully serviced before winter sets in. Something as simple as forgetting to top up the anti-freeze can lead to a repair bill running into thousands of pounds," she said.

The AA will be warning drivers this week to be prepared and carry blankets and extra clothes in their vehicles, and to allow more time for their journeys if it snows. Elderly people were advised to take particular care.

Forecast, page 20

Maxwell cash

Our exclusive report on the missing funds from Robert Maxwell's empire continues today in Hunt for the Missing Millions, by Melvyn Marckus.......... Page 36

Doctors worried as cases of meningitis rise by 36pc

By Jeremy Laurance, health correspondent

A SUDDEN increase in cases of meningococcal meningitis is worrying doctors. The number has risen by 36 per cent in the past year.

Official figures released at the weekend show there were 1,827 cases of meningococcal meningitis and septicaemia in 1995 — 483 cases more than in 1994 and the highest total for six years.

The meningococcal form of the disease is the most serious because one in ten of the population carry the bacterium at any one time and can pass it on by close contact. Meningococcal disease killed 185 people in 1995, a quarter more than in 1994.

The latest figures are published by the Public Health Laboratory Service, the official body responsible for monitoring communicable diseases, which has maintained that there has been no increase in meningitis. A spokeswoman said yesterday: "Our lab reports did go up in November and December, indicating that the meningitis season was starting earlier ... What we don't know is whether the season has shifted forward by a month or two or whether it has extended."

The rise is in cases notified by doctors to the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys. It was disclosed in *Communicable Disease Report*, published by the Public Health Laboratory Service on Friday. Lab reports, to confirm the presence of meningococcal bacteria, do not show the same sharp rise. Scientists say this may be because antibiotics are now being given earlier to suspected victims, killing the bacteria before they can be isolated in the lab, and reducing the death rate.

A spokeswoman for the Meningitis Research Foundation said: "It is possible that we are looking at an increase in meningococcal disease."

Dr Simon Nadel, a consultant paediatrician at St Mary's Hospital, London, said: "Cases of meningitis have been steady for the last four years and now we have this sudden increase. It is very concerning. We've noticed an increase in numbers and in severity here at St Mary's. We had to refuse over 40 patients referred to us in November and December because our paediatric intensive care unit was full. Over Christmas and the New Year we were full and turning two or three patients away each day."

Arafat sweeps to poll victory

Yassir Arafat, leader of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, won a sweeping victory in the first Palestinian general election this weekend, delivering a crushing defeat for Islamic fundamentalists who called for a boycott of the poll.

With most of the ballots counted, turnout among the one million eligible voters was estimated at 75 per cent, much higher than predicted. Women were prominent at the polling booths...... Page 8

Bosnia witnesses tell of mass grave

Witnesses have described what is believed to be a mass grave in Brcko, Bosnia, made when the town was taken by Serbs in 1992. Thousands of Muslims and Croats were killed and those who survived say that innocuous-looking grassy fields, where there used to be a valley, is where they are buried.......... Page 8

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Granada's Forte takeover to cost taxpayers £450m

By Graham Searjeant
Financial Editor

TAXPAYERS stand to lose up to £450 million in direct subsidies and lost tax if Granada succeeds tomorrow in its takeover bid for Forte, the hotel and restaurant group. This is equivalent to the cost of three new hospitals and is likely further embarrass Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor.

Alistair Darling, Labour's City Affairs spokesman, said last night that the Opposition would examine these loopholes closely when Parliament starts detailed scrutiny of the Finance Bill this week. He said: "We are extremely concerned at the way in which the tax system can be exploited in takeover bids. The taxpayer should not be expected to subsidise this kind of activity".

The television and catering group's £3.9 billion bid hopes to rely on a series of tax loopholes prised open by City accountants and tax laywers. Granada and its advisers believe these will allow it to sell most of Forte assets for more than £1 billion more than their cost to Forte without having to pay any significant capital gains tax.

Taxpayers would also contribute directly to the bid. Granada has structured the takeover package so that pension funds and other big shareholders can claim extra cash from the Exchequer in the form of a tax rebate on a £440 million special dividend to be paid by Forte immediately after it is taken over. The bid closes at 1pm tomorrow. The cost of this tax rebate, potentially almost £90 million, will depend on who owns the Forte shares. Taxpayers are likely to have to pay at least £40 million towards the bid.

In its drastic defence plan, Forte also seeks to sell large quantities of assets and to spend £800 million enhancing its share price at minimal tax cost.

Tax loopholes, page 38
MAM meeting, page 40

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THIS WEEK IN THE TIMES

TUESDAY

BEATING BACK PAIN
Part two: does your doctor really know best?
PLUS: See how your players are performing in our £50,000 Interactive Team Football

WEDNESDAY

ESSENTIAL FASHION
A parent's guide to cool for kids
PLUS:
Interface, our weekly computer supplement

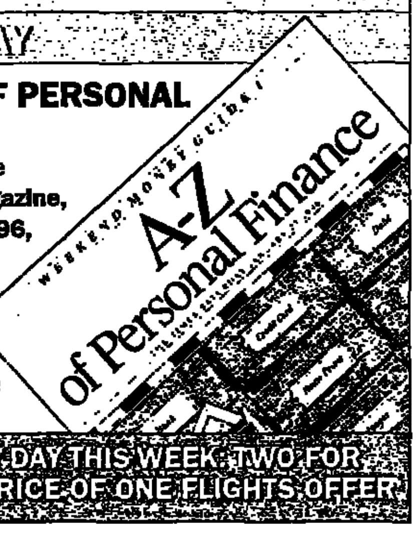
THURSDAY

FILMS OF THE WEEK
Geoff Brown on Pedro Almovódar's *The Flower of My Secret*
PLUS:
Health, the Books pages, and John Bryant on sport

FRIDAY

POP
Caitlin Moran on modern music and musicians
PLUS:
The Valerie Grove interview, and the Education page

SATURDAY



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EVERY DAY THIS WEEK: TWO FOR THE PRICE OF ONE FLIGHTS OFFER

Churches lobby Bottomley as lottery hits rollover record

By ALEXANDRA FREAN, MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

CHURCH leaders are increasing pressure on Virginia Bottomley, the Heritage Secretary, to review the impact of the National Lottery.

The news comes as the nation prepares for another week of lottery fever after Saturday's draw failed to produce a jackpot winner for the second consecutive week. As the jackpot prize has been rolled over twice, Camelot, the game's organiser, believes that the top prize this week will reach at least £40 million.

Statisticians were confounded yesterday when Saturday night's draw produced the game's second double rollover in a row. Statistically, two double rollovers should occur no more than once every 400 years. The last double rollover draw on January 6 produced a £42 million jackpot shared by three winners. The size of the prize prompted criticism from church leaders and politicians. They expressed concern that such large sums encouraged greed and caused misery.

Church leaders are seeking a meeting with Mrs Bottomley to underline those concerns. An ecumenical delegation led by the Rt Rev David Sheppard, the Anglican Bishop of Liverpool, is expected to meet her soon. A spokesman for Bishop Sheppard said that he was concerned about "the size of jackpots and the obsessive, unreal fantasies the lottery can create".

The spokesman added: "He is also anxious that Britain's tight guidelines and regulations on gambling are being undermined."

The first double rollover was described at the time by the Bishop of Worcester, the Rt Rev Philip Goodrich, as grotesque. The Bishop of Wakefield, the Rt Rev Nigel McCulloch, gave a warning that it could "totally destroy lives". Bishop Goodrich said yesterday that the meeting with Mrs Bottomley was timely. "If it gets bigger and bigger, where is it going to stop? I would rather see a lot of people being helped than it going to help one person," he said.

Camelot's reaction to the double rollover was enthusiastic. David Rigg, its director of communications, said: "You would expect a double rollover to happen approximately once in three years. We expect another week of great excitement from the public and a very busy week for the 20,000 National Lottery retailers. Our strong advice is to buy early in the week to avoid the last-minute rush."

In a separate development, the Rt Rev Crispian Hollis, the Roman Catholic Bishop of Portsmouth, held an informal meeting last week with Jennifer Paige, the chief executive of the Millennium Commission, which gives lottery grants to projects designed to celebrate the year 2000. He expressed concern about the lack of Church input into the organisation of the official millennium celebrations.

A spokesman for the Catholic Media Office, which represents the Catholic Bishops' Conference in England and Wales, said: "After all, it is the millennium of Christianity that is being celebrated. As chairman of the Catholic Bishop's Millennium Committee, the bishop wanted to make sure that it was put on the agenda."

Mrs Bottomley is expected to defuse tension about these issues early this week by announcing to MPs that she is prepared to introduce a greater flexibility in the award of lottery grants. At present the four bodies distributing lottery money to the sports, the arts, charities and National Heritage have been restricted to giving capital grants.

Bottomley: wants grants to be more flexible

Lottery numbers, page 20

Solicitor uses Internet to find potential clients

By FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

A LAW firm has launched an advertising campaign on the Internet to attract clients and to research potential compensation claims that range from cosmetics to baby drinks.

The move by Graham Ross, of the Graham Ross & Keith Park Consultancy in Liverpool, marks a new departure in the increasingly aggressive marketing techniques being adopted by solicitors. Mr Ross is thought to be the first solicitor to exploit the Internet in such a fashion.

He said: "The Internet is becoming vital to the work we do. It gives us an in-house research facility which produces crucial information on our cases — instant access to hundreds of libraries from our desks as well as all the current medical and scientific data that is being exchanged by scientists."

Mr Ross is involved in potential claims concerning cosmetics, children whose teeth have allegedly been damaged through the use of baby drinks, tranquillisers, anti-depressants and haemophiliacs who became infected with the HIV virus through blood products.

He added: "It also tells people what cases we are running so if they think they may have a claim, they know where to find us."

His Internet pages act as a source of potential new claims. He runs a "whistleblowing section" that invites employees to make contact if they believe any practice of their company does not conform with safety or hygiene regulations.

Last year, to accusations of ambulance chasing, Mr Ross launched the Allied Lawyers Response Team (ALeRT), which undertakes research on potential claims for other member-lawyers. Some 20 cases are being researched and in five enough work has been done for the claims shortly to go public.

Mr Ross's activities are causing concern among lawyers acting for drug companies or those on the receiving end of potential claims.

Christopher Hodges, a partner with the City law firm McKenna & Co, said they could lead to an "explosion" of litigation over allegedly defective products. "Legal aid may be being cut back, but claimants' lawyers are seeking new ways of funding such cases."

Mr Ross denies charges of ambulance-chasing, an American practice in which lawyers employ people to wander round hospitals encouraging patients to instruct the firm in injury claims.

Under ALeRT, he says clients are not indentified "until they contact us". However, he believes that though still in its infancy, the Internet is the way forward at a time of diminishing legal aid funds for group personal injury or product liability claims.

Charles Christian, editor of *Legal Technology Insider*, said that a number of big City law firms now had full-page sites on the Internet which acted purely as advertisements.

"It is certainly a way of reaching clients. But largely it is a solution in search of a problem at the moment. Its potential awaits exploitation."

SKY NEWS

The Gurita, which sank within three minutes, according to Steve Nicholson

Survivor tells of disaster

Continued from page 1

survive. "A Jeep popped up and floated near us with its rear end in the air," he added.

"We were relieved to be together. Caroline had lost both her contact lenses and I had only one of mine. We had one eye between us.

"We were clinging to the Jeep. Too many people had come over and clambered on to it and it sank. We swam away and starting treading water for 20 minutes. All the time things were just floating by. An empty oil drum, a piece of wood. We grabbed hold of things and floated with them for a while.

"Then, amazingly, a lifejacket floated by and I grabbed it. Only 15 of these things ever got off the boat and there was one of them. Caroline was starting to get tired at this time so I put the jacket on her and I rested on it.

"We then saw a liferaft floating towards us. It was full of people who were really panicked and throwing people out of the boat. People were clinging to the sides. In the end we managed to get a spot.

"One of the tubes had already blown. The other tube started to go. I heard it was going to go and decided we should swim away. The liferaft popped and sank. A Swiss guy on it was really panicked and said he couldn't swim any more. He said, I'm going to go. We told him to calm down and keep on swimming. But he just went under and was gone."

From 8.30pm until about 4pm the next day the couple swam together, spurring each other on. Several times they were within two miles of land and were swept out again by currents. They endured two-metre (6ft) swells and rough conditions. Once they came within 50 yards of a fishing boat before it turned away without seeing them.

"It was then that I said to Caroline, look, if we get through this we'll get married. She said to me, yeah, OK, and that was that.

"We saw so many people die. People we had met, been sitting next to, they were drowning all around us. I could not even think about losing Caroline.

"We did not think about sharks or anything. We just thought, well the waves are big, we have to deal with it."

The couple were flown over and missed by a rescue plane. They ate two tomatoes and an orange that floated by. After 20 hours they were spotted by an oil tanker. "A guy jumped overboard with a life ring and we were saved."

The couple were released from hospital in Sabang, Indonesia, on Saturday and are recovering at a guest house in mainland Sumatra and waiting for British Embassy officials to fly in from Medan. They are expected to fly back to Britain before the end of the week to see their families in Nottingham and London.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Maxwells must wait, says SFO

Kevin and Ian Maxwell will be told on Friday whether the Serious Fraud Office is to drop further charges against them. George Staple, who is due to step down as director of the beleaguered SFO next year, said that he would be making his decision about pursuing eight more prosecutions this week.

A Department of Trade investigation into the flotation of Robert Maxwell's Mirror Group Newspapers could be published within the year, and Mirror pensioners will today seek legal advice over the possibility of making a civil prosecution.

Kevin Maxwell, 36, and his brother Ian, 39, were acquitted on fraud charges last Friday.

William Rees-Mogg, page 16
Business, page 36

Fire alarm

The fire station whose engines were first on the scene of last week's blaze at the NatWest Tower, central London, is to be closed to save money. The Barbican station in the City is one of four scheduled for closure in London as brigades across the country try to balance budgets. A series of strikes is planned in the capital next month if the Government refuses to increase its firefighting budget.

Tiger Moth flies

After a 72-hour delay, *Skippy*, a 60-year-old Tiger Moth, took off at 2.15pm yesterday from Headcorn airfield in Kent and landed in Amiens, northern France, four hours later on the first of its scheduled 52 stops on an 8,000-mile flight to Cape Town. Tony Richards and David Belcliffe, who aim to emulate Alan Cobham's pioneering flight in 1926, had to fly below cloud level in bitterly cold weather.

Virgin grounded

Richard Branson is to return to London as time begins to run out for his global circumnavigation record attempt. Adverse weather in Morocco, the launch pad for the 18-day *Virgin Challenger* balloon flight, has ruled out any lift-off until the beginning of next week. The team — Mr Branson, Per Lindstrand and Rory McCarthy — is expected in Britain tomorrow night.

Air crashes up

Four civil airliner crashes in December in which 386 people died turned 1995 into one of the worst for fatal air accidents for a decade. Statistics compiled by *Flight International* magazine showed a total of 57 accidents around the world in which 1,215 people died. Although fewer people died than in 1994, the number of crashes rose sharply from the average of 44.

Ashdown demands PR from Labour

By JILL SHERMAN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

PADDY ASHDOWN will make clear tonight that Labour would have to commit itself to electoral reform soon after coming to power to secure Liberal Democrat backing in a coalition government.

The Liberal Democrat leader will set out in a speech his terms for working with Labour in government. He will insist that Tony Blair campaigns in favour of a "yes" vote in a referendum on proportional representation — a condition Mr Blair is unlikely to accept.

Mr Blair has pledged his party to a referendum on PR, but he is unconvinced of the need to change the first-past-the-post system. He has indicated that he will allow his Cabinet to express their own views during a referendum campaign on PR. Tonight Mr Ashdown will call for a modern Great Reform Bill early in the next Parliament and say there is no possibility of coalition with Labour without a pledge for PR.

Yesterday, on BBC1's *Breakfast with Frost*, Mr Ashdown gave the strongest sign yet that he was willing to work with Labour after the next election. Asked if he would be prepared to join a formal coalition government with Labour, he replied: "Of course." He said there would be no pre-election pacts with Labour.

Scargill challenge, page 6

Short denounces grammars

Continued from page 1

the choice of school for her children, urged her former party to clarify its position on selection and opting out. "Most parents want a good comprehensive system. They do not in the least want to go back to selective education because they have seen what that can do in the past."

The Campaign for Real Education welcomed Ms Harman's choice of a selective school as an indication that the party's policy had become untenable.

Nick Seaton, the Campaign's spokesman, said: "The Labour Party has shown a great ability to change its policies according to popular opinion, and I think it certainly should do so on this one."

Margaret Tulloch, Secretary of the Pro-Comprehensive Campaign for State Education, was "saddened", saying supporters would want reassurance on Labour's policy.

The Harris poll of 1,000 adults shows 54 per cent want the Government to go further and return to a "fully selective system". The question made clear this would involve an 11-plus examination and secondary modern and grammar schools.

The poll, commissioned by the Association of Teachers and Lecturers, shows the Tories narrowing the gap on education for the first time in more than a year. Labour policies remain the more popular, but the party's lead over the Tories has slipped by six percentage points since September.

Leader and letters, p17

A STARK LESSON IN CONTRASTS

St Olave's school, Orpington, could hardly be more different from Harriet Harman's neighbourhood comprehensive, a grim inner-city institution where 30 per cent of pupils left without a single GCSE pass last summer.

St Olave's was among the leading state schools for GCSE and A level in the last *Times* examination tables. Only one of its 98 entrants failed to pass five higher grade GCSEs in 1995.

William Penn School, a mile from Ms Harman's home, languishes last but one in Southwark's league table. Once regarded a model comprehensive, the Dulwich school is a classic 1960s mix of concrete and glass, defaced in parts by graffiti.

Loyalist fears 'deep crisis' over weapons

By NICHOLAS WATT, IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

A LEADING loyalist said yesterday that Northern Ireland would face a "deep crisis" if the international commission on terrorist arms fails to find a formula to allow the start of all-party talks.

As George Mitchell, the chairman of the commission, prepares to publish his report on Wednesday, David Ervine said he would echo Sinn Fein's recent warnings of a crisis if the commission failed.

Mr Ervine, the leader of the Progressive Unionist Party, the political wing of the Ulster Volunteer Force, told BBC Radio 5: "While republicans have for months been talking of crisis, people like myself have been saying 'Calm down, it's not too bad, we are in a better position than we were'. But if the Mitchell commission fails, I will be saying we are in deep, deep crisis."

Speculation was mounting on both sides of the Irish border that the Mitchell report may call on Britain to shelve its insistence that the IRA must decommission some arms before talks. Sources in Dublin believe Mr Mitchell may recommend disarming on a phased basis during talks which would also be phased. All parties could be required to agree basic principles including decommissioning, never to return to violence, to accept the final political settlement, and that the future of Northern Ireland can be decided only by its population.

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Tycoon secures Budgie cartoon royalties

Deal to rescue Duchess from debt worries Palace

BY EMMA WILKINS AND ALEXANDRA FREAN

THE Duchess of York's efforts to stave off financial crisis by striking a deal with an American tycoon are causing growing concern at Buckingham Palace, it emerged yesterday.

While the Queen feels reassured that the Duchess does not face immediate problems over her debts of up to £3 million, officials are worried about the longer term implications of her arrangements with Ray Chambers, a millionaire from New Jersey.

The Duchess is understood to have signed a deal in Washington last week that released funds to pay off her Coutts overdraft. In return, Mr Chambers and his consortium have secured the vast proportion of the Duchess's future royalties from *Budgie the Little Helicopter*.

Mr Chambers, 53, who met the Duchess at the White House last year, is on familiar business ground: one of his coups was to buy the rights to the *Looney Tunes* and *Sesame Street* characters for £50 million and sell them to Disney for £210 million. He supports charities through the Amelior Foundation.

The deal is likely to involve the Duchess in promotional events for Budgie's spin-off products, which range from soft toys to plastic models and children's fancy dress. She has already appeared at Bloomingdale's in New York to endorse the products.

Palace officials are anxious that the Duchess should avoid schemes that could be seen as exploiting her connection with the Royal Family.

The Queen is sympathetic to the plight of peripheral family members who need to earn salaries, but has robust views on what constitutes appropriate conduct. "This deal could involve the Duchess in other things like doing more books, trying to make films and generally marketing more strenuously," a Palace offical said.

"It's up to the Duchess to work out how to proceed, knowing the Queen's views on this sort of thing. It's up to her to make sure that the whole thing is appropriate."

The Duchess did not rule out the possibility of a big television interview when she spoke to an Australian magazine published yesterday. Asked by *Woman's Day* whether she might make a broadcast along the lines of the Princess of Wales's *Panorama* interview, the Duchess said: "I couldn't say whether I would do the same thing."

Speaking to the magazine two weeks ago, the Duchess said: "Now that Andrew and I have been separated for three years, I have to see myself as a working mother because I am determined to give my children a good life."

The American network ABC paid a reputed $1 million (£653,000) for the rights to broadcast the *Panorama* interview last year. A subsequent conversation with a lesser royal would attract a smaller sum.

While the Duchess's forecast earnings from *Budgie* were estimated at £160,000 for 1996, the longer term prospects are brighter. *Budgie*, which made its debut on Fox Television in America last October, has huge marketing potential, Brian Trueman, the cartoon's scriptwriter, says. "A lot of its success comes from having the Duchess of York's name attached to it."

Fox Broadcasting is part of The News Corporation, parent company of News International, the ultimate owner of *The Times*.

Saviour with a fearsome reputation

Chambers: crafty

THE unassuming New Jersey businessman with whom the Duchess of York has agreed a deal is one of America's craftiest corporate taskmasters (Quentin Letts writes). Ray Chambers's laid-back air and avowed distaste for publicity belie a man used to getting his way who is feared by business opponents.

Mr Chambers, 53, the son of a warehouse manager, assembled a fortune of some £350 million from leveraged buyouts. He and his partner, William Simon, who was US Treasury Secretary under President Nixon, bought large companies, stripped assets, and then moved on to the next challenge.

Mr Chambers has given away reams of money to charities in and around his home town of Newark. For relaxation he plays the piano and studies eastern religions.

Mr Simon, reported to be an associate of Mr Chambers in the deal, is also an acquaintance of John Bryan, the Duchess's former financial adviser.

GARETH WATKINS

Galliano dreams up Paris fantasy

It was cocktail time on the Paris catwalk yesterday, and time to celebrate for John Galliano, the British designer who has stepped into the shoes of Hubert de Givenchy. Among Galliano's debut collection for Givenchy, at an indoor football stadium, was a short blue-grey cocktail dress with twenties style ruff and hat, left, and a short orange cocktail dress with gold hat and umbrella, shown by Naomi Campbell. The Italian designer Gianni Versace said: "It was really out of this world. Fashion needs this kind of fantasy"

Sense and marketability for latest stately film star

BY RACHEL KELLY
PROPERTY CORRESPONDENT

Saltram House: preparing for the tourist rush

A GEORGIAN home in Devon is being prepared as this year's most stately media star. The National Trust is expecting record visitors at Saltram House because it features in the new film of *Sense and Sensibility*.

The film starring Emma Thompson and Hugh Grant uses the property as the Dashwood family home, Norland Park, for the Jane Austen drama. The trust intends to limit visitors' time when the house opens in April.

The white stucco house, with a saloon and library created by Robert Adam, was built on early foundations in the mid-18th century. It was originally the home of the Parker family who in 1815 were created the Earls of Morley. When the fourth Earl of Morley died in 1951, the house, with its contents and 291 acres of parkland, were accepted by the Treasury in lieu of death duties. They were vested in the National Trust in 1957. Between 1994 and 1995, it had 38,400 visitors.

The trust is increasingly marketing houses in the wake of films or television serials. The impact has been called the *Pride and Prejudice* effect. Belton House in Lincolnshire, Sudbury Hall in Derbyshire and Lyme Park in Cheshire all featured in the BBC's adaptation of that Austen classic last year.

Figures for Lyme Park show that the house and garden had 800 visitors in the first week after it was seen on television, compared with 86 in the same week the year before. The trust has introduced a "Darcy walk" around the lake in which Darcy famously swam.

Dyrham Park, between Bath in Bristol in Avon, featured in the 1993 film *The Remains of the Day*, starring Sir Anthony Hopkins. The following year, visitors were up from 45,624 to 50,375.

The TV series of *Middlemarch* generated such extensive publicity for Stamford in Lincolnshire that the local tourist office was inundated with requests for tours and local property prices perked up.

Michael Taylor, director of public affairs for the trust, said: "The primary benefit of filming is that it brings our houses back to life and helps visitors to understand them better and to enjoy them more."

Leading article, page 17

Hugh Grant with Kate Winslett in a scene from the film *Sense and Sensibility*

Jeans song strides to No 1

BY ALEXANDRA FREAN, MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

A LITTLE-KNOWN band from Wolverhampton has toppled the superstar George Michael from No 1 in the record charts with what is claimed to be the fastest-selling debut single in British pop history.

Babylon Zoo's techno dance record *Spaceman*, which features in a Levi's commercial, went straight to the top yesterday after selling nearly half a million copies in six days.

Clive Black, managing director of Babylon Zoo's record company EMI UK, said that *Spaceman* was on its way to becoming the company's fastest-selling single since the 1960s, when such bands as the Beatles frequently exceeded half a million sales in a week.

Spaceman was released last Monday and was outselling Michael's *Jesus To A Child* by ten to one early in the week, despite a huge marketing campaign by Michael's new record company Virgin. A spokesman for the record retailer HMV said: "I thought it was a misprint at first when the figures came in, because sales this high in January are almost unheard of."

Its success is a blow for Michael, who had to wait more than three years to release *Jesus To A Child* because of a legal dispute with his former record company Sony. It was his first No 1 for ten years.

Babylon Zoo was formed by Jas Mann, 24, whose mother is a Sioux Indian and whose father is from the Himalayan resort of Simla. One of EMI's marketing team heard a demonstration tape of Mann's single on a Manchester radio station.

The Levi's advertisement shows a Russian model, Kristina Semenovskaia, 16, as a rebellious teenager living in a space colony who struts around in her new jeans in front of her shocked father.

The first in a long list of singles that have benefited from Levi's commercials was Marvin Gaye's *I Heard It Through The Grapevine*, which in 1985 was the accompaniment to the actor Nick Kamen stripping to his boxer shorts in a launderette.

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'Nobody else was going forward, so I ran towards him and threw my bag at him'

Frenzied killer ignored efforts to halt slaughter

By Tim Jones

A YOUNG *woman police* officer and a businessman described yesterday how they struggled in vain to prevent a man from killing his wife in a frenzied knife attack. After the stabbing, police discovered the body of a two-year-old boy in the back of a car and the bodies of three other children in a flat in Bristol.

Harry Robinson, 48, a financial consultant from Halesowen, West Midlands, explained how he attempted to disarm the man by using his bag after witnessing the attack as he walked *out* of Birmingham New Street railway station.

He said: "I saw an Asian *man* about 20 yards away with a woman at her feet. He appeared to be punching her and kicking her. I walked in their direction when I realised there was a very large knife in his hand.

"I hesitated slightly, but no one else was going forward and I ran towards him and raised my bag and threw it at him. That knocked him back but only about 6ft against a car. The woman was slumped on the floor.

"The man still had the knife in his hand and came forward *again and I thought he was* going to come for me. I lifted my bag to defend myself but he totally ignored me and *went towards her again.*" *Mr* Robinson said he was shocked *when he realised the man was* not punching his victim but stabbing her repeatedly with a 9in-blade kitchen knife.

Police believe the man had already stabbed to death three of his six children at his Bristol home before travelling to Birmingham, where he was to have spent time with his youngest son as part of a custody arrangement. The boy was found strangled in the back of a car. The sisters aged 14, 11 and 9, were later found dead in their beds at the family's home in the Montpe*lier district of Bristol.*

Mr Robinson said he threw *himself forward again* and knocked the attacker back as WPC Jill Spencer arrived and used her extended police baton to disarm the man.

She said: "In disarming the assailant I only did what any other police officer would have done in the same situation. We are all very sad the woman and her child did not live." She added: "I did everything that could be done in the circumstances."

Detective Superintendent Malcolm Ross, of West Midlands Police, said WPC Spen*cer and Mr Robinson had* been faced with a "frenzied attack". *He added:* "WPC Spencer is a young officer and did commendably well in tackling this man armed with a knife. Mr Robinson also acted with courage and considerable bravery."

He said the incident came after the man hired a car in Bristol and travelled for his regular 2½-hour visit with his son. The family were known to social services and the man had custody of five children while his wife, who lived in a refuge for battered women in the Midlands, had custody of *the youngest.*

Superintendent Paul Robb of the British Transport Police said it was likely that WPC Spencer would be nominated for a Chief Constable's Commendation.

It is understood the couple had separated several months ago. Two other boys, believed to be from the same family, escaped the tragedy and are now being cared for by their grandparents.

The attacker was identified locally in Bristol last night as a shopkeeper.

His wife was named as Fochram Mahmood and the children as Saega, 14; Saema, 11; and Uzma, 9. The young *boy was thought to be called* Hussein. Police refused formally to name anyone involved in the tragedy, but said a *38-year-old man* was being questioned last night.

Police at the Bristol house where three sisters died

DAVE JONES

WPC Jill Spencer and Harry Robinson tried to stop the knife attack

Knife shops still selling weapons to teenagers

SHOPS are still selling combat knives to teenagers without asking questions despite public concern over stabbings, television investigators say.

The national police amnesty on knives, the results of which will be released today, has had little impact on the unrestricted trade in the weapons, according to evidence gathered by *Watchdog* to be broadcast on BBC1 tonight.

The programme sent Steven *Hale, 16, to several shops in* Liverpool city centre where he was able to buy combat knives with serrated blades almost 7 *in long,* a 6 in Green River knife, a 5 in double-edged boot knife and sheathed combat knives. Although the sales were not illegal, none of the shopkeepers asked Steven his age or questioned his motives for wanting the knife.

The programme also highlights the growing trade in dangerous knives by mail order through advertisements in military and combat magazines. One company, Battle Orders of Eastbourne, describes one of its knives as a "wicked double-edged 7 in *blade made with one thing in* mind".

The managing director, Graham Barton, told *Watchdog that the "one thing in* mind" was killing people. "It's rather similar to advertising a fast sports car. It may do 140 miles an hour but you can't go over 70," he told the programme.

Home Office figures attribute a third of killings last year to knife attacks.

Counting new six-billion sum is just pi in the sky

By Nigel Hawkes, science editor

A JAPANESE professor has stolen a march on American rivals by calculating the value of pi to more than six billion decimal places. Bewildering to most outsiders, the long rivalry between *Yasumasa Kanada of the* University of Tokyo and the Chudnovsky brothers of Columbia University in New *York has pushed the value* of pi to undreamed-of extremes.

Since pi — the ratio of the *circumference of a circle to* its diameter — is a number without end, the struggle for supremacy could go on for ever. But Professor Kanada has taken the lead, checking all 6,442,450,000 decimal places by carrying out the calculation in two ways, each of which took about five days on a HITAC S-3800/480 computer.

The calculation of pi is as old as mathematics. The Babylonians and the Egyptians used fractions to approximate its value. Many people can remember that it begins 3.14159 and then lose interest. But not pi-fanatics, *some of whom have spent* their lives calculating the mysterious number ever more precisely.

By the early 18th century, pi had been found to 100 decimal places, and a million decimal places was *achieved by two French* mathematicians in 1973. David and Gregory Chudnovsky were the first past a billion places, in 1989.

Knowing pi this accurately is of no imaginable value. Dr Roger Webster of Sheffield University points out that just 39 places of decimals are sufficient to calculate the circumference of a circle girding the known universe to within the radius of the hydrogen atom.

In Professor Kanada's first six billion places, the digits occur with almost equal frequency. The commonest is one, with *600,033,260 appearances,* while the least frequent is four, with 599,957,439. The string 123456789 occurs five *times,* while 987654321 occurs just three times. The first nine digits of pi itself, 314159265, occur seven *times.*

Does this matter? Not much, but it is a good way of testing the power of new computers.

Professor Kanada has said that he enjoys calculating pi "because it's there". But it would be unwise to try to recite his latest result. At one digit per second, without stopping, it would take about 200 years.

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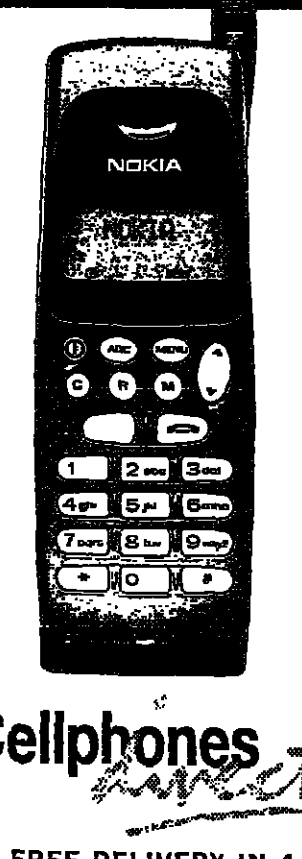


GPs angry at priority care for trust's employees

By Dominic Kennedy

A HEALTH trust is allowing its employees to jump the National Health Service waiting list as a perk of the job. General practitioners are angry that other patients will have to wait longer for treatment.

The Health Department is investigating the policy but there appears to be nothing in NHS Executive guidelines to prevent it. Doctors fear that other trusts will use such offers to recruit staff and boost morale. The South Devon Healthcare NHS Trust argues that it has been an open secret since the NHS was founded that, nationally, medical staff are treated before members of the public.

Vivienne Thorn, a GP in Torquay, says, however, that the trust is allowing all its 4,000 employees to jump the queue, instead of just essential workers. "This has always happened for people on the front line," Dr Thorn said. "Now the hospital has decided to give this perk to all staff, whether they are gardeners or working in the sweet shop. It shouldn't be done at public expense. My patients shouldn't be put further down the waiting list because they happen to be members of the public."

GPs have been asked to state in their letters to Torbay Hospital whether patients are employees of the trust. Dr Thorn said: "I am sure trust employees will insist that they get their treatment or operation done as a priority. Other people do give priority treatment to their staff but they do it by putting money into private healthcare."

John Broomhall, the trust's medical director, said many employees other than medical staff were vital to the hospital. "Other things being equal we will try and see the staff first," said Dr Broomhall. "Obviously, a ward sister is a frontline member of staff. On the other hand, it may be just as important to get the guy who runs the boilers back to work."

Rupert Allason, Tory MP for Torbay, has tabled a question to Stephen Dorrell, Health Secretary, asking what the national guidelines are on the matter.

Right-to-choose group lines up against Guernsey's opponents of change

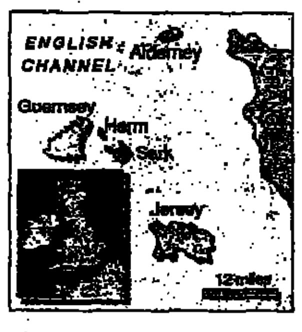
Militant campaign inflames battle for abortion reform on Channel Island

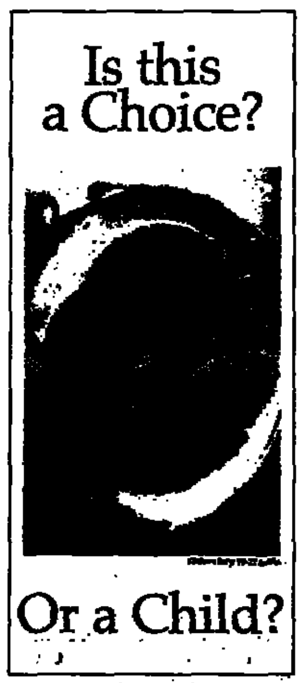
By Russell Jenkins

THE leaflets, bearing the image of an 11-week-old foetus in the womb, carry the words "Is this a choice? Or a child?" They will be dropping through the letterboxes of the people of Guernsey during the coming weeks, the latest salvo in a fiercely contested battle over abortion, which remains illegal on the Channel Island.

The tactic is a direct import from the slick American Right to Life campaign, and for many island women will be a harrowing, and largely unwelcome, reminder of a dilemma they themselves have faced. About 100 women a year make the secretive trip, often disguised as a shopping expedition, to an abortion clinic on the mainland to terminate a pregnancy.

With the exception of the Republic of Ireland, the independently governed Bailiwick of Guernsey, which takes in the islands of Sark, Alderney and Herm, is the last place in the British Isles where abortion remains a criminal offence. "We all know at least a dozen women on the island who have been 'away'," said one middle-aged mother of two grown-up children, a pillar of the community in the island's main town of St Peter Port.




Is this a Choice?

Or a Child?

Part of the leaflet to be distributed by pro-lifers

Thirty years after the mainland wrestled with and resolved the problem, Guernsey is debating abortion law reform, stirring deeper passions than anything since the German occupation more than half a century ago. In May, proposed changes to the law will be put to the island's 55 elected representatives. Before them will be a Board of Health working party report recommending adoption of the mainland model. The abortion law reformers want to go further and adopt the full-blooded "women's right to choose" available in France.

Under the Abortion Law (1910), any woman found guilty of obtaining an abortion can receive a sentence of three years' to life imprisonment. Any doctor administering the treatment would be sentenced with her.

Although it has not been used in earnest for more than four decades, the law remains a powerful brake on progress and a source of grievance for many women.

Islander is ranged against islander in a debate that has grown personal, heated and virulent. A meeting on the subject was described in the local paper as "like a Nuremberg-style rally in support of a charter for good-time girls".

To so-called pro-lifers, the "women's right to choose" lobby is in thrall to international feminism. Words such as "murder" and "slaughter" have filled newspaper letters columns.

Jenny Moore, 51, co-founder of the Guernsey Abortion Law Reform Group, believes the wealth brought to the island by offshore banking has cushioned women from many harsh realities of life. They had grown complacent.

However, they were shocked into political activism when the States of Deliberation — Guernsey's Parliament — refused to ratify clauses in the UN Convention on Human Rights on the equality of the sexes, putting Guernsey below Egypt and Bangladesh in its treatment of women.

A public forum last summer, which drew the largest public gathering on the island since the war, was designed to inform the debate. It served only to inflame passions. The speakers, Claire Rayner and Professor Wendy Savage, were supported — and upstaged — by two teenage girls in the audience who stood up, arm in arm, and eloquently defended a woman's right to choose, waving a 300-signature petition.

Members of the Channel Islands Right to Life group, left seething in their seats, complained that they were harried and harassed and then effectively silenced by the organisers.

Anatomically correct foetal models have been distributed to every school on the island but, to the intense dismay of the pro-lifers, activists have been refused an opportunity to present their case to children in the classroom. At the centre of the Right to Life campaign is Cynthia Kennedy, a veteran of the American Right to Life movement who arrived in Guernsey two years ago from Grand Rapids, Michigan. Demonised by her enemies, she is a charming but determined woman with an unshakeable belief that abortion is the same as murder.

She dismisses as "preposterous" suggestions that she was dispatched from America to keep Guernsey an abortion-free zone.

Islanders say that the eleventh commandment on Guernsey is "Thou shalt not rock the boat". Mrs Kennedy, 46, has done just that. Worse, she is a newcomer.

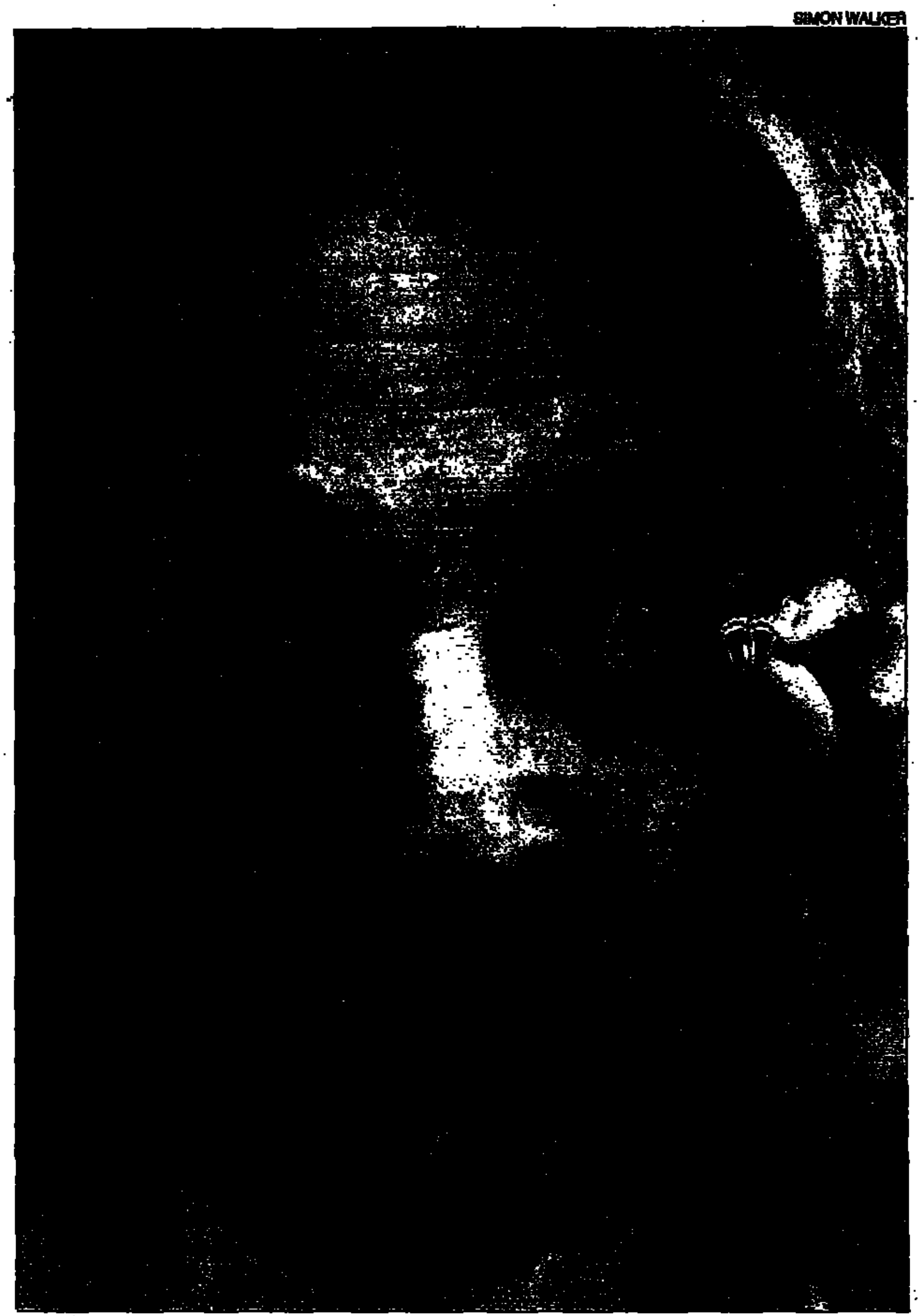
Her sumptuous, restored stone farmhouse and barn is so neat that the magazines on her coffee table are arranged in a fan. Her daughter Laura, 16 — the youngest of five children she has educated herself — has set up a youth pro-life group in solidarity with her mother. The family, obviously close and loving, makes formidable opponents to change.

According to Mrs Kennedy, her allies are the Guernsey people who are naturally pro-life, law-abiding and innately conservative. "They observe Sunday closing, do not steal from their neighbours and live in dread of a speeding ticket.

"Isn't it wonderful that Guernsey still has more enlightened laws than the rest of Europe?" she said. "We have always affirmed life in Western culture. Only now, in the last 30 years, have we had this tremendous push by one segment of society — women — who have taken on the right to kill the unborn child."

The island's Parliament is under pressure to reform a law that has fallen into disuse. "We have always said we are 20 years behind England," Mrs Moore said. "Now it is finally time to come up to date."

SIMON WALKER


Cynthia Kennedy, the American Right to Life campaigner, holds a lapel badge she wears that is made up of two feet the size of those on a ten-week-old foetus

Tropical travellers to sue over drug effects

By Nigel Williamson
Whitehall Correspondent

A GROUP of travellers is seeking compensation over an anti-malaria drug that produces serious psychological problems in some people and other side-effects in almost a quarter of users.

Solicitors have applied for legal aid to seek compensation for more than 70 people who have suffered severe reactions to Lariam, the strongest anti-malaria drug on the market. Side-effects include hallucinations, fits and panic attacks. Others have suffered loss of balance, dizziness, rashes and gastro-intestinal problems.

The manufacturer, Roche, said that its study of 145,000 travellers suggested that only one in 10,000 suffered serious side-effects. However, after a recent BBC television *Watchdog* programme, Roche wrote to GPs conceding that 22 per cent of people using the drug experienced problems.

Christiane Goaziou, a solicitor in Bristol, plans a group action against Roche alleging negligence. She said: "We have people who have serious psychiatric disorders because of Lariam. For some people the problems persist long after they have stopped taking the drug. We are confident we can prove that Roche failed to assess the drug adequately."

Dr Thomas Stuttaford, the *Times* doctor, said that in extreme cases Lariam could "precipitate psychological crisis and acute depression". In other cases, users could feel "light-headed and poorly coordinated" and should not use a car or machinery.

Doctors at the Hospital for Tropical Diseases in London have called for further research on the drug. Some travel companies warn their clients not to take it. Cazenove and Loyd Safaris said: "About 80 per cent of our travellers who have taken Lariam have experienced problems with it."

The Department of Health said that it would continue to monitor the drug. It recognised that in rare cases Lariam could have a serious effect on the nervous system. "But the benefits outweigh the risks of side-effects."

Dialysis shortfall kills hundreds

By Jeremy Laurance, Health Correspondent

AT LEAST 1,000 people a year are dying of kidney failure because there are not enough kidney machines to treat them, a specialist said yesterday. Pressure on renal services is so intense that some hospitals cannot meet the demand. The Manchester Royal Infirmary has been forced to reduce some patients from three to two sessions of dialysis a week, against the advice of specialists, to cope with the number of patients in renal failure who would otherwise die.

A national review of renal services, commissioned by the Health Department, was sent to ministers 18 months ago but its publication has been blocked by the Treasury. The review says demand will accelerate, but Treasury ministers are alarmed at the cost of its recommendations, which could double spending to £500 million.

Professor Stewart Cameron, former president of the Renal Association and a member of the national review, said 25,000 transplant and dialysis patients were receiving treatment. "That is 25,000 people who would otherwise be dead," he said. However, more than 1,000 patients were dying each year for lack of treatment.

"GPs may be diagnosing them with heart failure or not referring them because they know about the shortage of facilities."

At least 80 new patients per million population require treatment for kidney failure each year but the average level of provision is 65 per million and in some districts as low as 20 per million. The shortfall is worst in the north. In the Manchester area, demand is predicted to rise by more than 40 per cent by the end of the decade because of the ageing population and the rise in ethnic groups who suffer kidney failure at three times the rate of others.

The national review was chaired by Professor Netar Mallick, Professor of Renal Services at Manchester Royal Infirmary. He said yesterday: "I hope the time will come fairly soon when the review is released from purdah and we can get on with the business of implementing it."

The National Federation of Kidney Patient Associations said the crisis at the infirmary was "a local practical example of the failure of national policy". The federation is now surveying all kidney units to discover whether they have suffered similar cuts.

A spokeswoman for Manchester Royal Infirmary said extra funding to hire staff had been agreed, which would allow extra dialysis sessions to be provided in the spring.

Professor Cameron, Emeritus Professor of Renal Medicine at Guy's Hospital, central London, said specialists agreed that all patients up to the age of 80 should be offered treatment but the average age was under 60.

Kidney transplant patients are estimated to cost £7,000 a year in drugs and other treatment, home dialysis costs £10,000 and treatment on a kidney machine requiring three sessions a week costs £18,000 a year.

HOW KIDNEY MACHINE SAVED A [illegible]

BELINDA GRAY has had diabetes since she was 11 and suffered kidney failure at 26. Her youth probably saved her. "I thank my lucky stars I suffered renal failure at an age when I could get dialysis. I don't think doctors should play God but if there are not enough resources they have to. It comes down to how much a life is worth. My kidneys went incredibly quickly. I wasn't well at all but I didn't realise how unwell until I was on dialysis. I had been incredibly tired for years but I just lived with it. I was afraid to think that something might be wrong." Now 34, Ms Gray, who lives near Bristol, has been on dialysis for eight years apart from a brief period when she had a kidney transplant that failed. She has a permanent line inserted in her stomach through which the dialysing solution is introduced and removed. She can carry out the procedure herself at home. More severely affected patients require haemodialysis on a kidney machine in hospital.

Fears smoothed on tar treatments

MEDICAL BRIEFING

Tar intrudes into most people's lives only when, in hot weather, the pavements melt and the sticky black liquid is carried indoors on shoes and dogs' paws. In tens of thousands of households, however, tar is not thought of as a viscous mess on the carpet, but the essential ingredient of creams, lotions and shampoos that calm a troubled skin and keep the scale papules and plaques of psoriasis at bay, so a person can lead a happier social and professional life.

One in 20 white people — it is less common in the black races — have the skin disease psoriasis, which is not in itself dangerous and in most cases the patients remain in good health.

Unfortunately slightly less than 10 per cent develop psoriatic arthritis, and a very small number have exfoliative psoriatic dermatitis. The television series *The Singing Detective*, by the late Dennis Potter, dramatically brought all these to the public's attention.

The unsightliness causes difficulties. Psoriasis commonly affects the scalp, and sometimes the face and the backs of the hands. When on the scalp, the scaling of the skin causes such a snowstorm of dandruff that wearing a dark suit becomes impossible and any thought of a formal wedding has to be abandoned.

Recently there has been a report in *The Lancet* of a very small experiment in Holland which showed that, when volunteers used a powerful tar shampoo, they later excreted chemicals in the urine which could in some circumstances be cancer-forming.

Professor J. L. Bruton, President of the British Association of Dermatologists, has now written to the journal to allay any anxiety. Professor Bruton emphasises that the tar in the shampoo used in the experiment was at least 100 times the level found in seven commonly used shampoos. In his opinion, and that of his dermatological colleagues, the author of the report had made a number of untested assertions as a result of that experiment.

A committee of the British Association of Dermatologists has reviewed all the literature on tar preparations, which is extensive as tar has been used to treat psoriasis over a number of years, and has concluded that tar, when used in medicinal products, does not pose any health hazard.

Tar preparations are messy and unpleasant to use but they seem reasonably safe. If the tar preparations prove more effective than other treatments in controlling psoriasis patients can, in the present state of knowledge, be advised to continue to use them.

DR THOMAS STUTTAFORD

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*Conducted in June 1994 by the Faculty of Information Technology of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales. Full results of the survey are available from the IT Faculty, ICAEW, PO Box [illegible], Moorgate Place, London [illegible]. Price [illegible]

هكذا من الأصل

By-election gives Scargill a chance to embarrass Blair in old mining area

Poll fight with ghost of Labour's past

By James Landale, Political Reporter

A BARRAGE of by-election canvassing will be stepped up this week in the West Yorkshire constituency of Hemsworth, but few voters expect to be pestered by Labour. The party is defending a 22,000 majority, so some things can be taken for granted, and with good reason.

Richard Caborn, Labour MP for Sheffield Central, said of one local village last week: "If you ask somebody in Featherstone if they vote Labour, you'll get two black eyes. You just remind them when to vote."

The constituency is made up of former mining towns hit by pit closures. Failed shops blight town high streets, male unemployment is about 10 per cent and many of the picturesque dales are threatened by open-cast mining. But despite Labour's traditional support, the party will face an unusual challenge on polling day on February 1.

The by-election caused by the death of Derek Enright is the first set-piece electoral battle between new and old Labour. Arthur Scargill has put up a candidate under the banner of his new breakaway Socialist Labour Party. Never mind that the party does not formally come into existence until May 1, or that it has no formal organisation. Labour wits talk of Mr Scargill's new-found conversion to "one man, one vote" and canvassers say they are treating him "like *any other fringe party*".

Jon Trickett, 45, Labour's candidate and leader of Leeds City Council, said: "I am not at all concerned about the Scargill candidate. People will stand fully committed behind the Labour Party."

While only a small dent in Labour's majority can be expected, a respectable number of votes for the SLP could prove embarrassing to Tony *Blair's New Labour revolution*. And the NUM president has found someone with as good a chance as any of winning a few votes.

Brenda Nixon, from Thorne, near Doncaster, was a leading light in the Women Against Pit Closures campaign during the early 1990s. While some miners in Hemsworth last week seemed to be distrustful of the SLP, others believed she could well pick up a few votes from their wives. Many remembered her *strident campaigning style* for miners' families that once caused her to be arrested outside Conservative Central Office.

"I am not concerned." Jon Trickett, Labour

Vying for second place: David Ridgway, Lib Dem

Jester of party conference: Norman Hazell, Tory

The mother-of-two, who let her Labour membership lapse six months ago, has known Mr Scargill for some years and expressed an interest in the SLP when rumours about its possible formation emerged last year. This month she received a call from the miners' leader, who made an offer she could not refuse.

"I have simply applied for membership and here I am as a candidate," she said. Mr Scargill is her agent. Central to her campaign will be demands for the renationalisation of the main privatised industries, the repeal of anti-union laws and the rebuilding of public services. Although she was already disillusioned with New Labour, it was the dumping of Clause Four that made her break with the party. "Tony Blair has sold out," she said. "We are saying *to voters that they don't have* to vote for Labour because it's the lesser of two evils."

The Tories, who are fighting to avoid being knocked into third place by the Liberal Democrats, have chosen a 63-year-old grandfather as candidate. Norman Hazell, a rare Tory presence on the local council and regular court jester at party conference, seems to be best known for once having genuflected and kissed Margaret Thatcher's hand, as if she was the Pope. He is, however, a truly local candidate and is playing to this strength.

For the *Liberal* Democrats, David Ridgway, 49, is a a jovial financial consultant who can be trusted to repeat the required mantra — "more investment in education" — *without too much spin-doctoring*. Almost inevitably, he "enjoys music, is a keen gardener, grows his own vegetables and makes his own wine".

The full list of candidates is: Peggy Alexander (Green Party); Michael Cooper (National Democrat); Peter Davies (UK Independent Party); Norman Hazell (Conservative); Dianne Leighton (Natural Law Party); Brenda Nixon (Socialist Labour Party); David Ridgway (Liberal Democrat); Lord David Sutch (Official Monster Raving Loony Party); Mark Thomas (Mark Thomas Friday Nights Channel Four); Jon Trickett (Labour).

☐ *1992 general election: Derek Enright (Lab) 29,942; Garnet Harrison (Con) 7,867; Valerie Megson (Lib Dem) 4,459. Labour majority: 22,075. Turnout: 76 per cent.*

Brenda Nixon, of the Socialist Labour Party, helped to lead Women Against Pit Closures

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Reward to find girl missing from care

A SOCIAL SERVICES department has taken the unprecedented step of offering a reward for help in finding a teenager missing from care. Fears are growing for the safety of Beverley Squire, 14, who vanished from a Somerset boarding school seven weeks ago.

Cambridgeshire Social Services is offering £1,000 for information leading to Beverley, from Wisbech, Cambridgeshire. They fear the youngster, described as naive and impressionable, could be lured into drug-taking or prostitution.

Beverley left Sedgemoor College near Taunton on December 7 just over a week after being placed there by social services. She disappeared with another pupil from the school but left her behind to accept a lift in a car. The last contact from her was a telephone call to a friend four days before Christmas.

Ted Unsworth, director of Cambridgeshire's Social Services, said: "She has no means of support, and you have to be concerned about how she is getting money."

Lynn Hancock, her social worker, said: "She has been in our care since 1991 because she is beyond parental control. We can only hope she is supporting herself by shoplifting or some other means because there is a better chance *she will be found*.

"When she has gone missing in the past she has always kept in touch by some means but this time it's different."

Beverley: missing from school for seven weeks

[illegible]

Search for marine's grave fails

Hopes have faded of finding the grave of a Royal Marine who vanished on the Falklands 15 years ago. What was thought to be a grave in the remote Danson Harbour area of the islands turned out to be a strange, natural feature, local police said. It had been reported as a possible grave by a military patrol.

"We are satisfied it is not man-made," Superintendent Ken Greenland said. The fruitless search was 11 miles from the North Arm settlement, where Marine Alan Addis, 19, was last seen.

Fare deal

British Rail paid a £135 taxi fare for a woman travelling from Taunton in Somerset to Penzance in Cornwall for her mother's funeral. Angela Tresidder was stranded at Exeter when a storm destroyed the sea wall at Dawlish and her train was unable to continue.

Powerful gas

The country's first domestic waste power plant should be running in Cambridge by the end of the year. The city council's pilot plant extracts gases from organic household waste that would otherwise go for landfill and converts them into electricity. The residue can be composted.

Aerosol recall

Mr Sheen furniture polish aerosol cans are being recalled because of fears that they could leak butane gas. Those affected are the Pot Pourri, Spring Fresh and Original fragrances in cans bearing an identification number between R177 and R353 on the bottom rim.

Spirited away

A bottle of armagnac worth £2,000 has been stolen from a hotel at Rotherwick, Hampshire, after it was brought up from the cellars to be served at a dinner. The 1930 bottle was placed on a tray at the Tylney Hotel but went missing during the evening. One glass of the armagnac costs £76.

Community's silence hinders hunt for killer

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Correspondent

A 15-MONTH investigation into the murder of an 11-year-old girl may soon be ended because it has met a wall of silence within the Asian community. The hunt for the killer of Nayntara Ali is now Scotland Yard's longest running active child-murder investigation but, as police prepare for an inquest next month, they admit the outlook is bleak.

Police still do not know how Nayntara died, why she was killed and whether the death was murder. Detectives and forensic scientists have recovered no clues from her body or the site where she was dumped that would give them any successful leads.

Nayntara vanished in November 1994. Three weeks later her naked body appeared carefully wrapped in a sheet and an old carpet on a rubbish site that had already been searched twice by police 40 yards from her home in Leytonstone, east London.

She had bruises to the back of her head and her forehead had been struck against something. The pathologists concluded that she could have been suffocated by being pushed down or by someone putting her head in the crook of their arm.

There were no "defence wounds" to show that she had tried to stave off an attack. Police believe this means the attack was swift or that she knew the person.

Mr Morgan said Nayntara was a spirited child who had difficulties at school because of her naughty behaviour. She was living with her grandmother, two aunts and her younger sister. Two uncles live near by. Her mother and father are in Pakistan: he was deported some years ago after a drug conviction.

Defectors complain of dogmatism and church meetings that were 'excuses for eating and boozing'

Catholic celibacy rule drives priests to join Anglicans

BY RUTH GLEDHILL, RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

ABOUT 50 former Roman Catholic priests are serving as Anglican clergy in Britain, most of them because they wished to marry.

While attention has focused on the 250-plus Anglican clergy seeking to join the Catholic priesthood after the Church of England ordained women priests, a survey released today suggests there is a trend in the other direction.

Kevin Hartley, who left the Catholic priesthood and returned to the laity more than 20 years ago, surveyed more than 20 of the 47 former Catholic priests who are clergy in the Church of England, the Church in Wales, the Scottish Episcopal Church and the Church of Ireland.

"The traffic is not all one-way and it has been moving for some time," Mr Hartley, who is a legal assistant for the Anglican Lichfield diocese, said. He discovered the former Catholic priests by running a computer search through *Crockford's Clerical Directory*. He knows of at least one other who refuses to acknowledge in print his earlier allegiance, and believes there could be more.

His survey covered the past 30 years. The number of those who became Anglican clergy represents a fraction of the hundreds of Catholic priests who have returned to their Church's laity since the 1960s.

Mr Hartley, who is married with two children, said the desire to marry was a chief reason for switching churches. Another was anger over the Catholic Church's unbending stance against artificial birth control. Several were homosexual and hoped to find a more tolerant attitude in the Anglican Church.

Few Catholic priests who joined the Anglican ministry are prepared to discuss their history. The Rev Christopher Armstrong, rector of Aberdaron, in the Bangor diocese of the Church in Wales, spoke with reluctance. He was baptised a Roman Catholic, ordained a priest in 1959 and received into the Scottish Episcopal Church.

Mr Armstrong served in Church of England parishes and moved to Wales in 1993. Married with one daughter, he says his journey was a "long, drawn-out process and largely personal".

When Mr Hartley asked those who have switched priesthoods whether they would return to the Catholic Church if it rethought its stance on married clergy, all said "no". The reason given was Catholic dogmatism.

One defector saw himself still as a Catholic priest "with permission to officiate in a sister Church". Another saw himself as a minister "who happens to be paid by the Church of England".

Others complained of superficial relationships with fellow priests when they were Catholics and a climate where "meetings were just occasions for eating and boozing".

They say that their decision to seek Anglican ministry was greeted with hostility. "You are either mad or bad," one priest was told. One bishop said a departing priest was "deviant, an apostate".

Mr Hartley said: "It seems a very great pity that almost without exception, and sometimes with clearly expressed sadness, these priests feel they were treated with incomprehension, without any recognition of the years of service they gave to the Catholic Church, without any expression of hope that they would find fulfilment along the new turn in the path of their faith."

But nearly all complained of the failure by Anglicans to instruct their laity adequately in moral theology. One priest said: "I used to think that the ignorance of the average person in the pew was lamentable. In the C of E it's gross."

BARRY GREENWOOD

The Rev Christopher Armstrong, walking with his wife Meriel above his Welsh church yesterday, says his changeover was "largely personal"

Clergyman tops US chart with Bible cartoons

BY A STAFF REPORTER

AN ENGLISH clergyman has become the unlikely star of the American video charts, knocking Walt Disney's *Pocahontas* off the number one slot with a simple Bible story.

The first two video instalments of the Rev Brian Brown's *The Storykeepers* have gone platinum, selling 100,000 copies each in their first month of release.

Mr Brown, 59, from Headington, Oxfordshire, said television was an easier way of conveying the Christian message to children than through books. There are a further 11 episodes in production for the £3.5 million series with proposals for two more series and a film.

Mr Brown, who devised the idea of producing televised Bible stories seven years ago, said: "I came to the realisation that most children encounter their first experiences through television, not books. I decided to use this to give them access to Jesus and the Bible.

"The easiest way to bring the messages of the Bible was through animation."

He insists that his screen versions of the most well-known Bible stories do not trivialise the momentous events portrayed. "I was a severe critic of previous attempts to do just this so in a way I suppose I am the gamekeeper turned poacher. But all the theologians I have shown it to have approved of the way I've done it."

Mr Brown has had a thorough grounding in the entertainments industry. As chaplain to the Cavern Club in Liverpool he worked with stars including Freddie and the Dreamers and the Merseybeats. Then, as head of Television Research at Oxford Brookes University, he acted as an adviser to programmes on BBC and Independent Television, including Channel 4's music show *The Tube*.

He teamed up with his son-in-law Andrew Mulrose, a lecturer at King Alfred's College in Winchester, and after being dissatisfied with the efforts of a series of writers they decided to produce a script themselves. Mr Brown said: "The story of Jesus is told through a member of the Christian underground called Ben the Baker, who I based on the character of Renée from *'Allo 'Allo*."

After failing to gain backing in England, Mr Brown found people willing to invest in his project in Ireland. Zondervan, the sister company of Twentieth Century Fox, became interested and Mr Brown found himself series executive producer of the project, working alongside the creative force behind animation classics including *The Snowman* and *An American Tale*.

"A lot of work has gone into this and an awful lot of research too — we knew it was just right," he said.

The Storykeepers is being distributed worldwide and is likely to be released in Britain in the next three or four years.

Muslims removed from RE lessons over 'Christian bias'

BY CAROL MIDGLEY

HUNDREDS of Muslim children have been withdrawn from religious education lessons by parents concerned at alleged Christian bias.

The Muslim Associations of Batley, which helped organise the move, in 40 schools in the Kirklees area of West Yorkshire, thinks Muslim children may be confused by learning about other faiths than Islam. Leaders say that learning about other religions risks "corrupting" their beliefs.

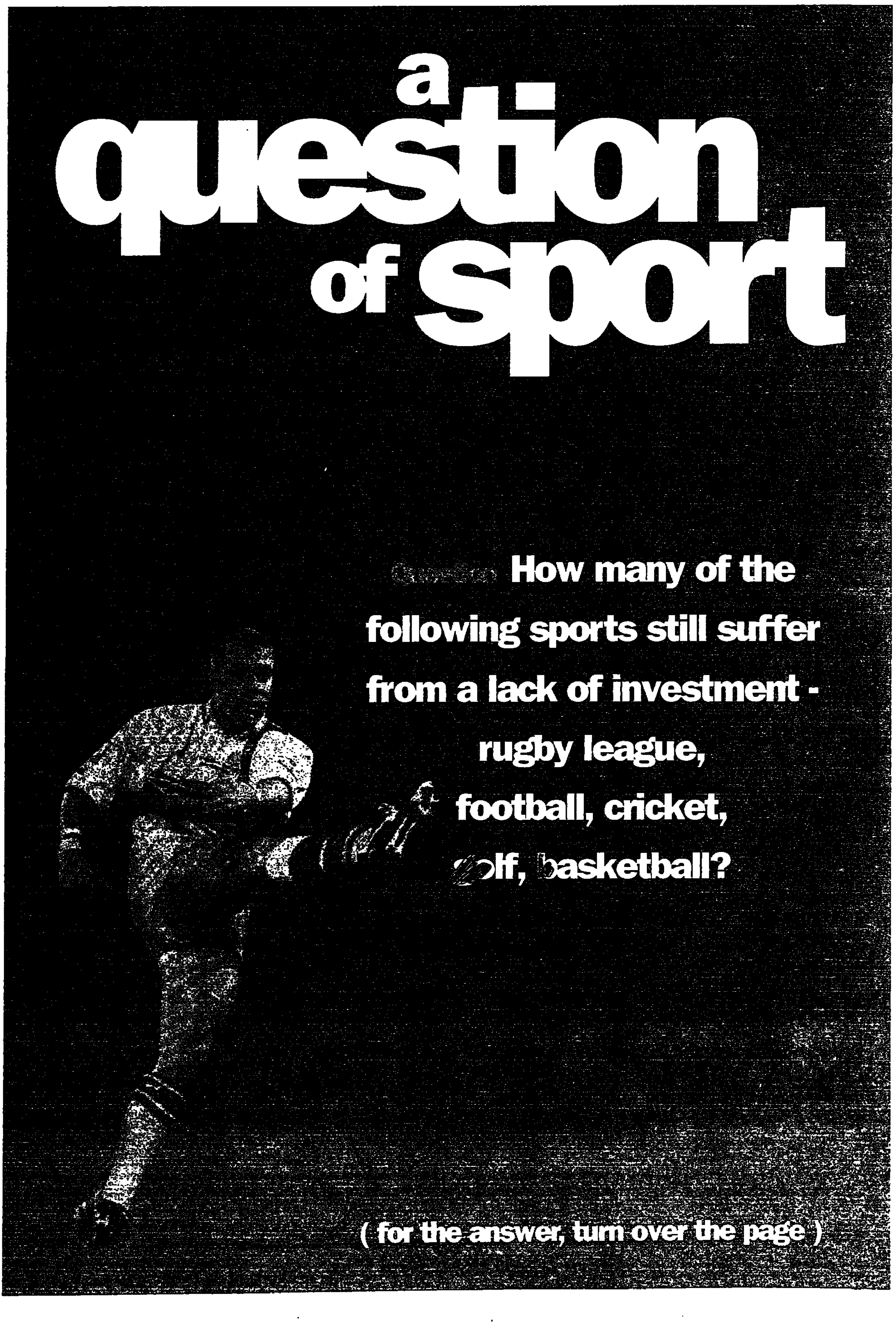
Since 1988, parents have had a legal right to withdraw children from RE. Parents of 1,500 pupils have now exercised that right in a move that could be followed elsewhere. Kirklees council, which is responsible for 4,000 Muslim schoolchildren, has set up a working party to seek a compromise.

Mohammed Amin, of the Muslim Associations of Batley, told BBC Radio 4's *Sunday*: "If they get bombarded with different ideologies and different thinking, typically what happens is, the Muslim child is so clicked on to what the teacher is saying that he or she thinks that whatever the teacher is saying is right."

Mr Amin said that in some schools, nearly all the pupils were Muslim, yet Christianity still featured heavily in RE. He added: "Most of our clergy believe that the Christian teachers who are good possibly at teaching Christianity don't have the in-depth knowledge to teach Islam properly."

Ibrahim Hewitt, the associations' development officer, said: "Withdrawing is probably an act of desperation." He said Islamic scholars had "finally woken up to the fact that religious education in this country is weighted against Muslims. Muslim children in state schools have had a problem for a long time on religious education, not just in Kirklees, all over the country."

Gordon McGregor, headmaster of the church-aided Batley Parish School, where half his Muslim pupils have been withdrawn from RE, said: "I respect the parents' decision and they have a legal right to withdraw their children from these lessons. I hope a compromise can be reached. I believe confusion is unlikely to arise — teachers are going to know when it becomes difficult for the pupils. We are educators, not indoctrinators."



a question of sport
How many of the following sports still suffer from a lack of investment - rugby league, football, cricket, golf, basketball?
(for the answer, turn over the page)

Islamic hardliners snubbed as women lead march to ballot box in first Palestinian elections

Arafat scores big triumph as voters defy boycott call

From Christopher Walker in Jerusalem

Palestinian women with voter cards queue at a polling station in the Gaza Strip. There was a surprisingly high turnout in the election

ISLAMIC militants suffered a humiliating defeat in the first Palestinian general elections *as voters overwhelmingly* ignored their boycott call and gave Yassir Arafat, the veteran leader of the Palestine *Liberation Organisation, a* sweeping victory.

With most of the ballots counted yesterday, turnout among *the one million eligible* voters was estimated at 75 per cent, much higher than predicted. Women led the throng *at polling booths, often with*out the male members of their family, to demonstrate their defiance of attempts by the *extremists to impose* dress and other social codes on them.

"This is the biggest defeat that the hardline Muslims have suffered in any Middle Eastern election in recent years and a body blow for *countries like Iran which op*pose the peace process between Israel and the PLO," a leading European diplomat said. *"There is real hope* tonight that this could be the beginning of a trend that could signify a reversal for the *fundamentalists* elsewhere in the Arab world."

Election officials declared that around 85 per cent of *Palestinians who voted chose* Mr Arafat as their President rather than Samiha Khalil, 72, a grandmother and opponent *of the Oslo peace process, who* was his only challenger.

Senior Israeli defence officials, meanwhile, issued a warning that the high voter turnout had increased frustration within the ranks of Ha*mas, the Islamic Resistance* Movement. They said this had increased the likelihood of new suicide-bomb raids.

Shimon Peres, the Israeli Prime Minister, was one of the first politicians to note the significance of Hamas's setback. *He said: "The Hamas* movement has taken a blow, because it has turned out that a decisive majority of Palestin*ians are for the* Oslo agreements. The rifles and bombs of Hamas can only bring about more catastrophe to the Palestinians. *They are* remnants of the Mufti, remnants of bygone days."

Despite occasional discrepancies, *including alleged* Israeli intimidation of Palestinian voters in annexed east Jerusalem, Saturday's historic *poll was judged as "fair and* democratic" by a team of more than 300 European observers who monitored both the vote *and the count.*

Mr Peres told his Cabinet colleagues that if Yitzhak Rabin, his predecessor who was *assassinated by a Jewish op*ponent of peace, had been alive, the conduct and results of the election would have been *"one of true joy for him"*.

Attempts by Hamas and Islamic Jihad to enforce a boycott of the poll were so out *of tune with the popular mood* among ordinary Palestinians that in Gaza many Hamas activists, including some of its *leaders, openly went to the* polling stations.

Hasan al-Kashef, a political activist and writer in Gaza, *said the high turnout pointed* to the marginalisation of the two main Islamic extremist groups. He said the people *also defied the boycott calls* made by left-wing revolutionary groups which were once powerful within the PLO, such *as the Damascus-based Popu*lar and Democratic Fronts for the Liberation of Palestine.

"I believe the elections sig*nal the end of the political* instruments which played a part in the Palestinian revolution and the intifada," Mr Kashef said. "People are not voting out of political or clannish convictions, but for personalities. New political trends will eventually emerge in the Palestinian arena."

Barry Rubin, a leading Israeli political scientist, noted *that, as well as failing to* convince people to boycott the vote, the Islamic extremists had also prevented any of *their supporters from securing* a seat in the 88-member Palestinian National Council, the de facto Palestinian parlia*ment from which body Mr* Arafat will select most of his 25-member Cabinet.

"This has been a big failure by Hamas and the Islamic forces," Mr Rubin said. "They have made a serious mistake. There is not a single radical Islamicist in the *new* council. They have been shut out and the result of that is increasing legitimacy for Arafat ... They *were just not* able to keep people from going to vote."

The council will meet for the first time in Gaza at the end of *the Muslim holy fasting* month of Ramadan which began yesterday.

A delighted Mr Arafat, 66, *who defied both Islamic and* Jewish death threats to press ahead with the elections, said: "This is a new era. It is the first legislative and presidential elections for the Palestinian people. This is the foundation for our Palestinian state."

Early last night, as the count was continuing, it became clear that the voters had also shown a considerable degree *of sophistication* by electing a number of key independent candidates. They will be able to act as a foil to what has been *described as Mr Arafat's auto*cratic style of rule.

Two of the most prominent independent victors were Ha*nan Ashrawi, who stood at* one of the reserved Christian seats in east Jerusalem, and Haidar Abdel-Shafi in Gaza. Both members of the PLO delegation to the 1991 Madrid peace conference, they have since been stalwart campaigners for Palestinian human rights in the autonomous territory.

Palestinian commentators said that, given their domestic and international reputations, their presence would act as a counterweight in the council *which will be dominated by* supporters of Mr Arafat's Fatah faction of the PLO, and ensure that it will not just be a *rubber-stamp organisation.*

Arafat waves to supporters after voting in Gaza City

Mercenary 'ate livers of captives'

From Ben Macintyre in Paris

A YOUNG French mercenary has been arrested after attempting to develop photographs that show him taking part in a cannibal ritual with Burmese rebels.

François Robin, 24, a comrade-in-arms of Colonel Bob Denard, the veteran French mercenary, joined the Karen rebels last year as a military adviser to the ethnic group which has been fighting for independence from Rangoon since 1948.

During a skirmish a band of 30 Karen fighters captured and killed two Burmese soldiers, both under 18. Photographs in the possession of the Paris police reportedly show the two soldiers being eviscerated and their livers being cooked.

M Robin and the Karen guerrillas then reportedly sat down to a cannibal meal which *Le Journal du Dimanche* described yesterday as resembling "a dinner among friends".

M Robin, who was charged on Saturday with being an accomplice to murder, has not denied the photographic evidence. He claims he did not want to appear cowardly in front of his comrades by refusing to take part in what he called a "local tradition" during which the Karen warriors symbolically "devour" the bravery of their enemies.

The mercenary, who has also seen action with Croat forces in Bosnia, left Burma soon afterwards. Last October he joined Colonel Denard, France's most notorious "dog of war", during his abortive coup attempt in the Comoros Islands. M Robin was arrested, along with Colonel Denard, after the French Army intervened in force.

M Robin was later released and went on holiday to Thailand, where he met some of the Karen rebels, who presented him with negatives as a souvenir of the cannibal meal.

Apparently planning to boast about the incident to his friends on his return to Paris, M Robin left the negatives to be developed by a shop in the Forum des Halles. When he returned to collect the prints, the police were waiting, having been tipped off by the shop's horrified staff.

Born in Troyes and well educated, with a baccalaureate in literature and languages, the blond, reticent M Robin is hardly the model of a ruthless mercenary, let alone a cannibal. "This is no Rambo," one policeman told *Le Journal du Dimanche*.

In France, mercenaries, like the Foreign Legionnaires, remain romantic figures, as Colonel Denard's large public following attests. But M Robin's career is an illustration of the contrast between the supposedly glamorous life of a soldier of fortune and its often grim reality.

At 18 he joined the French parachute regiment, but was dismissed after two years for stealing and fighting. He then worked at a fast-food restaurant and as a security guard, while mixing with the militant rightwingers, fantasists and thugs of the French mercenary underworld.

M Robin has also been charged with torture and failing to aid a person in danger, but the case poses legal hurdles since the alleged crimes were committed in Burma.

Colonel Denard and his motley band of mercenaries styled themselves *Les Affreux*, or The Monsters. M Robin's coming trial suggests the title is only too apt.

Neo-Nazis guiltless of Lübeck hostel fire

From Roger Boyes
in Bonn

GERMAN authorities yesterday ruled out the possibility of neo-Nazi-inspired violence as the cause of the fierce blaze that last week killed at least ten foreigners in a Lübeck hostel. A 21-year-old Lebanese man was arrested at the weekend and accused of arson.

The quick action by the police and the Prosecutor's Office was greeted with relief by Bonn politicians who had feared that the fire was the signal for a new wave of racist violence. The Prosecutor's Office said that the Lebanese man, a resident of the hostel, had given a partial confession to an ambulanceman on the *night of the fire.*

"He also supplied facts that only someone intimately involved with the crime could have known," said the spokesman. Police, examining the locks of the hostel, also came to the conclusion that the fire*bombing could not have been* carried out by an outsider. The locks were intact and forensic scientists have established *that the fire broke out in three* separate places on the first floor of the hostel, which housed more than 50 refugees *from Africa, Asia and the* Middle East.

Soon after the blaze, some hostel residents claimed to have seen three masked men throwing petrol bombs. Police appear to have discarded this evidence. Three men, one with neo-Nazi connections, were detained for questioning but were released for lack of evidence. Police said yesterday that they had nothing to do with the crime.

Since unification in 1990 Germany has been plagued by arson attacks on foreigners. Many were carried out or inspired by far-right extremists. But some have been the result of feuding between the Turkish and Kurdish communities; others have been caused by arguments and rivalries between the residents of the often crowded hostels.

Rome police hunt killer of British art forger

From John Phillips in Rome

ITALIAN police yesterday opened a murder inquiry into the death of Eric Hebborn, the British art forger who died of a stroke caused by head wounds in Rome earlier this month.

Judge Giancarlo Amato, an investigating magistrate, requested the inquiry into the suspected murder or manslaughter of Hebborn after a post mortem examination into his death on January 10 concluded that it was not the result of natural causes as had been supposed.

Professor Giovanni Arcudi found that Hebborn had died from a brain haemorrhage caused by massive head wounds, possibly made by a club or a large stone. The post *mortem examination* excluded the suggestion that the painter's death had been caused by the painter's long-standing ill health because of a drinking problem.

He had been found by a passerby lying in the Piazza *Trilussa in Trastevere on the* left bank of the Tiber.

"The artist had many enemies," commented *Il Messaggero. "His talent and his* taste for fraud had made him an enfant terrible for the world of art."

On Saturday his funeral was held at the village of Anticoli Corrado 60 miles south of Rome where for 30 *years Hebborn had lived in a* villa that also served as his secret workshop for creating paintings "in the style of" Rubens, Giordano, Tiepolo, Parmigianino and Corot.

In the local church of St Victoria which is decorated with a painting of Christ donated by the rogue British artist, 200 people gathered to pay homage to the "King of Art Forgers" as he was known in the Italian media.

Among them were his sister Aubrey and friends such as Lord Benson, Julian Bees, a Rome-based British journalist, and his students. Edgar Allegre, a Filipino painter and Hebborn's companion of 25 years, kissed the coffin as it was lowered into a grave. Father Santino Borali said in his requiem homily that "this death leaves a scar in our community".

Il Messaggero said a hunt was now on for Hebborn's will. Mr Bees, a friend of 30 years, said that "in recent years he was often ill and he often spoke of his intention to make his will".

La Repubblica asked whether Hebborn was a victim of "an amateur mugger or a man who knew of his wealth who saw him walking around with his pockets full of money".

After he was found, Hebborn was taken by ambulance between three Rome hospitals before being taken back to one of them, where he died after undergoing an operation.

Another close friend, Antonio Amodio, a drawing lecturer in Rome, said: "Eric was not well recently. It would not *have been difficult to* mug him. In Trastevere everyone knew him, perhaps too many people — and then he drank *too much. It is probable that a* man followed him and then fled without taking anything.

"Eric had foreseen he would end up in that way. He confided in me. 'I am terrified that one of these nights they will find me with a smashed *skull*'."

Hebborn: died in Rome *from wounds to head*

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Turks find hijacker in ferry's funnel

From Andrew Finkel in Istanbul

TURKISH police say they have arrested nine Chechen sympathisers who hijack a *Black Sea ferry with more* than 200 crew and passengers on board, including one hijacker who tried to hide in the funnel.

Only four members of the gang surrendered after they called off the siege on Friday rather than carry out their threat to blow up the ship when authorities stopped it from entering the Bosphorus Straits. One person was caught pretending to be a passenger, and police arrested another four people on Saturday.

Public opinion is divided over whether those arrested should be tried in the normal criminal court for armed abduction, a crime that carries a penalty of up to nine years, or by the more draconian state security courts, who deal with cases regarded as terrorism. There is little doubt that if the hijack had been committed in the name of a Free Kurdistan the perpetrators would be facing 15 years in prison. The hijackers, however, have won sympathy in Turkey, particu*larly after the brutal way in* which the Russians ended the hostage saga in the Dagestani village of Pervomaiskoye last week when at least 43 innocent people were killed, together with more than 150 Chechen rebels.

The Turkish Government has allowed itself to crow a little over the peaceful resolution to the crisis. The hijackers gave up just an hour after President Yeltsin publicly rebuked Turkey for not showing the resolve to bring the siege to an end. The ferry left the Turkish port of Eregli yesterday for the Russian port of Sochi. The mostly Russian passengers tossed flowers into the water as hundreds of Turks waved goodbye.

☐ **Grozny:** Chechen rebels pledged yesterday to free within 48 hours all hostages seized in Pervomaiskoye, except for several policemen whom they hope to exchange for captured rebels. *(Reuter)*

French and Italians heal rift

By Ben Macintyre

FRANCE and Italy called a truce at the weekend in their quarrel over nuclear tests when they held top-level talks for the first time in two months.

President Chirac cancelled a Franco-Italian summit last November after Italy supported a United Nations resolution condemning France's nuclear testing in the South Pacific. The President further enraged Italian officials by hinting he might not attend the European Union intergovernmental conference in Turin on March 29. M Chirac has now agreed to take part in the conference, and on Saturday *Alain Juppé, the French Prime* Minister, and Lamberto Dini, the Italian Prime Minister, held talks in Paris, during which the issue of testing was studiously avoided.

Signor Dini said that after France conducts its sixth and last nuclear test, expected before the end of next month, "we will be able to consider that a page has been turned".

M Chirac did not meet Italian leaders during a state visit to the Vatican on Saturday, suggesting that he has not yet fully forgiven Italy for *criticising his nuclear policy.* M Chirac's visit to the Vatican was the first by a French President since Charles de *Gaulle met Pope John* XXIII in 1959.

But in another sign that relations between the two *countries are thawing. Hervé* de Charette, the French Foreign Minister, had an informal dinner on Saturday with *Susanna Agnelli, his Italian* counterpart.

Yeltsin calls up the Cossacks to restore confidence in army

From Richard Beeston
in Moscow

STILL reeling from the aftermath of *last week's disastrous military opera*tion against Chechen rebels, President Yeltsin at the weekend turned to the Cossacks for help in reinvigorat*ing the military and protecting* the country's security.

In a move his Tsarist predecessors would have applauded, the Kremlin leader decreed on Saturday that the notorious frontiersmen should have their own military authority, effectively restoring their status in the Russian armed forces.

The Cossacks, known for their fine horsemanship and savage fighting skills, *settled and protected* the vast frontiers of the Tsar's empire and won special royal patronage in exchange for military service. After *the Bolsheviks* came to power their communities were persecuted, but since the end of Communism they have been lobbying for their reinstatement.

The rehabilitation of the Cossacks, many of whom still wear with pride their traditional brimless fur hats, Tsarist tunics and cavalry sabres, could be particularly useful for Mr Yeltsin politically and in military terms. *As he prepares for his re*election campaign in June, the Russian leader will need all the help he can get, not least from the *Atamans, the traditional* Cossack leaders, whose *millions* of followers are spread from Ukraine to the Russian Pacific coast.

In the present climate of rising nationalism, Mr Yeltsin may also have calculated that the return of Cossack units to the armed forces could be a popular move in restoring the public's confidence in the authorities. The Cossacks, who have *maintained their militarist tradi*tions over centuries, could provide badly needed reinforcements in key border areas, particularly the volatile northern Caucasus region, which were settled by Cossack communities in the last century.

Although it is still not clear how big the Cossack contribution will be to the 1.5 million-man military, about 20 Cossack units are currently being *formed in the* Army and the Border Guards. Their functions will include protecting frontiers, law enforcement and military duties. The Cossacks have also offered to provide the honour guard for the Kremlin, as they did before the Revolution of 1917.

However, Cossack communities in Kazakhstan and on the Chinese border have been accused of stirring nationalist tensions, while Cossack mercenaries have been involved in every significant ethnic conflict in the former Soviet Union.

هكذا من الأمل

Employers worried by ANC reforms evict workers in bid to foil claims of 'ancestral rights'

White farms 'invaded' by blacks hungry for land

FROM R. W. JOHNSON IN JOHANNESBURG

SIMON WALKER

A white farmer and a worker tend sheep. Many farmers are trekking north to escape land redistribution

"THIS is a difficult time to be a farmer," said Jan Marais as we strolled on his farm in the rolling Natal countryside. Indeed, he would only speak to me on condition that I did not use his real name. It was not difficult to see why.

South Africa's farmers are a successful group; the country not only feeds its burgeoning population but is also a large food exporter.

They were the backbone of the old Afrikaner nationalist regime, from which they received such favours as heavily underpriced water supplies and soft loans that were often not repaid. Now these privileges are being withdrawn and the African National Congress-led Government has scant sympathy for the group it sees as its historic enemy. Only recently has the party stopped using the chant "Kill the Boer, kill the farmer" to warm up youthful audiences.

The Government talks of sweeping land reform, with 30 per cent of the land to be redistributed within a few years, and is bringing forward a Bill to regulate labour tenancy — the practice whereby farm workers are paid partly in grazing and cultivation rights.

The Government, which sees such workers as virtual serfs in need of emancipation, envisages forcing farmers to give 24 acres of freehold land to each worker. The farmers say this will entrench subsistence agriculture in the middle of productive farms and that viability will deteriorate dramatically. There is a spate of evictions as farmers seek to reduce the number of these workers before the Bill becomes law.

But the real issue is less about the wording of new Acts than about the climate of heightened expectations that grips many of South Africa's rural blacks. Bitterly aware of the dispossession they suffered in colonial days and the systematic policy of forced removals of "black spots" under apartheid, many — especially the younger and more educated — have begun to talk of "regaining our ancestral land".

Where dispossession was relatively recent and clear-cut, they will doubtless get their land back. The problem comes where dispossession is lost in the mists of time. Some of the farm workers I questioned admitted that they and their families had gone to live and work on their farms only relatively recently. But this did not deter them from claiming ancestral rights.

The diffuse but strong discontent is likely to take the form of endemic rustling and attacks on farmers and their families. Several times recently, Mr Marais and his neighbours had to deal with land invasions in which their Zulu neighbours either drove cattle through their fences or tried to grab land for settlement. Many farmers are talking of using more high-voltage fencing and of setting up "rapid reaction" units to deal with such threats. It is assumed that they cannot call any longer on the security forces with any confidence.

Many farmers are extremely jumpy: in the Free State, spokesmen have been demanding the restoration of public hanging for those caught trying to attack farmers. Some farmers have trekked north to Mozambique, Zambia and Zaire. But there is still, despite the present anxieties, good money to be made as South African produce pours on to world markets.

"I am not going anywhere," said Mr Marais, "and I am sure my sons will farm this place after me." But with uncertainty suddenly creeping in, he added: "At least that's what they say now. I suppose they could change their minds ... I suppose we all could."

Farrakhan: fiery rhetoric appeals to black radicals

Pretoria braced for visit by Farrakhan

BY R. W. JOHNSON

THE American black Muslim leader, Louis Farrakhan, has posed a delicate problem for South Africa's political and religious leaders by announcing that he will visit this country this week.

In the wake of his Million Man March, American opinion polls are showing him to be the single most popular political figure among black Americans. South African blacks feel a strong sense of connection to black Americans. Thus if South African leaders decide to snub him, this will not be understood by the majority of South African and American blacks.

News of the visit has electrified South Africa's large Jewish community, for whom the virulently anti-Semitic Mr Farrakhan represents almost pure evil. Even before news of the visit had been announced, Seymour Kapelowitz, the president of the South African Jewish Board of Deputies, said that, while some Jews want to meet him with demonstrations, the majority would simply ignore the visit.

A more important fact is that American Jewry has long adopted this "no meeting, no talks" policy towards Mr Farrakhan and for South African Jews to depart from this policy would be to cross a key picket line.

Even so, the ANC has its fundamentalist wing, including President Mandela's biographer, Fatima Meer. Moreover, it is precisely Mr Farrakhan's rhetoric that appeals to radicals. They would like nothing better than to have their anti-white sentiments championed by a key black American.

Bahrain martial law threat

The military in Bahrain, the Gulf's financial centre, has threatened to impose martial law to end more than a year of riots by protesters from among the Shia Muslim population (Michael Theodoulou writes).

The warning at the weekend came after three days of clashes in which cars were set ablaze and property damaged. Saudi Arabia and the other Gulf emirates fear that the unrest, which began 13 months ago, may spark protests in their kingdoms. The majority Shia Muslims want the Sunni rulers to release political prisoners and restore parliament, dissolved in 1975.

Petrol-filled bus rams Diet gates

Tokyo: A right-wing protester crashed a bus filled with cans of petrol into the main gate of the Japanese Diet. The van burst into flames but nobody was hurt.

The protester was identified as Kazuyuki Tsuchida, 32, a member of Nihon Kominto — Japan Imperial People's Party — a far-right fringe group that reveres the Emperor and supports Japan's actions in the Second World War. The incident happened on the eve of Ryutaro Hashimoto's debut as Prime Minister. *(Reuter)*

French lesson for Body Shop

Chambéry, France: A branch of Body Shop, the British cosmetics firm, has been fined 1,000 francs (£130) by a court in eastern France for breaking a law requiring goods to be labelled in French. It is the first time the law has been enforced. The case arose after a group set up to defend the French language complained that about ten products had no French labelling. *(AFP)*

Aristide weds

Port-au-Prince: President Aristide of Haiti, a former Roman Catholic priest, has married Mildred Trouillot, 33, a US-born lawyer. She will be the impoverished nation's First Lady until February 7, when Mr Aristide, 42, is to hand over power to his successor, René Preval. *(Reuter)*

South Africa steps up dispute on US arms

FROM RAY KENNEDY IN JOHANNESBURG

SOUTH Africa is threatening to make public details of clandestine deals between its former white Government and America if Washington insists in going ahead with a prosecution against Armscor, Pretoria's state arms agency.

Washington is insisting that Armscor and seven former employees pay millions of dollars in fines for the alleged smuggling of American weapons technology to South Africa during the 1970s and 1980s. The technology was used in fuses for shells fired from South Africa's long-range G5 howitzers, which were sold to Iraq during its war with Iran. The shells were also used during the 1991 Gulf War.

The *Sunday Independent* reported yesterday that South Africa is prepared to claim Washington knew Iraq was being supplied with the technology because one of the former Armscor employees, Robert Clyde Ivy, an American citizen, was a CIA agent.

A spokesman for the United States Embassy in Pretoria yesterday confirmed that both governments were discussing the issue at presidential level.

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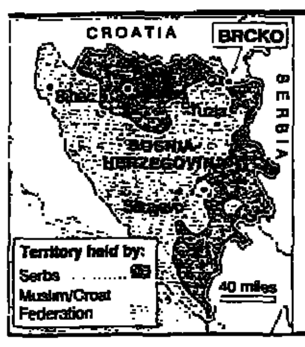
Bosnians say farm hides mass grave of Serbs' victims



In 1992 Serbs captured the town of Brcko, writes ***Stacy Sullivan.*** *Survivors claim 7,000 Muslims and Croats died in the ethnic cleansing that followed*

THE rubble along the road to the Bimeks chicken and pig farm is an ugly heap of cement, bricks, animal carcases and household rubbish. What lies underneath is probably far uglier.

It is believed to be the site of a mass grave containing Muslims and Croats who were killed when the Serb militia captured Brcko in the spring of 1992 and began an ethnic cleansing campaign. Thousands of Muslims and Croats, who comprised two-thirds of the town's 24,000 population, were killed.

Those who survived say the heap of rubbish and innocuous-looking grassy fields behind it used to be a small 30ft-deep valley with a dirt road running through it.

The valley and road are gone now. During 15 days in June 1992, lorries drove down the road and unloaded bodies and rubble, then flattened it with bulldozers, according to four witnesses. What was a meat industry town, with an ethnically mixed population, is now an ethnically pure ghost town, its dilapidated factories hiding the terror of four years ago.

Three witnesses to the alleged mass grave are Muslims and Croats who were held at the Bimeks farm and another location and forced to work by the Serbs.

The fourth is a Bosnian Serb from Brcko, who was captured by the Bosnian Government. He has identified three other alleged mass graves in the area.

American troops of the Nato Implementation Force, who have set up camps near Brcko, have been asked to help investigators from the International War Crimes Tribunal.

The Bosnian Government estimates that 7,000 people were killed in Brcko. Some were taken to the police station and the "Partizan" sports hall and shot. Refugees from Brcko, many of whom now live in the nearby government-held Gornji Rajic, say the spring nights of 1992 were filled with sounds of machinegun fire, explosions and screams.

A US State Department report in 1992 concluded that 3,000 people were killed at the Luka detention camp, a river port where Muslims and Croats were detained, beaten and killed in May and June 1992.

The United Nations War Crimes Tribunal has indicted Goran Jelisic, the commander of the camp, for genocide and accused him of killing 14 Bosnian Muslims. Another Serb at the camp, Ranko Cesic, has been charged with killing 15 Bosnian Muslims. But the indictment says hundreds of detainees were systematically killed there.

The killings, according to survivors, were brutal. Witnesses described the dismembering of prisoners while they were still alive. They say ears, noses, limbs and testicles were chopped off.

An exact number may never be known, but a witness who was forced into labour around the commercial farm from June 1992 until June 1993 said that he saw lorries carrying as many as 60 bodies each dumping corpses into ditches one afternoon. "A small refrigerated Bimeks truck pulled off the road to the animal farm," he said. "When I looked again, two men were unloading bodies. One after the other, they threw them into the pit, and the bulldozer was shovelling earth on to them."

The witness, who remembered the registration number of the lorry and the names of the two drivers, said he saw the lorry there several more times and claimed he had also seen it at Luka, where he spent five weeks.

Another witness said he saw a trail of body parts leading to the site in June, 1992.

One Serb family, living just yards from the site, admitted that relatives of those detained at the camp used to visit their house to wait for the release of their sons.

"I think all of them knew. That is the worst part of the story," said Professor Asim Mukjic, a refugee from Brcko who now lives in the government-held city of Tuzla. "I accept that they, too, lived under terror, but that does not ease their responsibility."

Silajdzic resigns

HARIS SILAJDZIC, the polished Bosnian who personified the Muslim cause throughout nearly four years of war, first as Foreign Minister and then as Prime Minister, announced he was standing down yesterday (*Eve-Ann Prentice, Diplomatic Correspondent, writes*).

He will be replaced by Hasan Muratovic, the minister in charge of relations with the Nato-led Implementation Force (Ifor).

The change reflects a sharp increase in political infighting in the Bosnian capital since Mr Silajdzic, 50, declared that he would not lead the post-war Bosnian Government envisaged under the constitution drafted at Dayton, Ohio.

Mohamed Sacirbey, who took over as Foreign Minister when Mr Silajdzic became Prime Minister, announced his own resignation two months ago. His position is expected to be filled by a Croat in the new government.

Floodwaters caused by melting snow leave a car submerged in Peak Creek, Virginia

Melting snow brings floods to Washington

From Tom Rhodes in Washington

THE Potomac River, swollen by rapidly melting snow and heavy rains, yesterday brought what were expected to be Washington's worst floods in a decade.

Streets close to the river in Georgetown, the middle class residential district, were under water as owners began trying to protect their homes and businesses with sandbags. The rising Potomac, expected to crest at 8ft above normal flood levels, brought a far from swift response from city officials who belatedly offered a series of warnings and redirected public transport in the area.

Helicopters had been called in the previous day to rescue four people stranded by rushing waters at nearby Great Falls, the waterfalls in the capital's suburbs. An elderly woman was also winched to safety after being trapped in her sinking car at White Ferry.

The coursing river, which reached 15ft above flood stage in Maryland, swept trees, mud and a bizarre assortment of large objects towards Washington, including a stuffed gorilla and a 1,000lb propane cylinder. The cannister, torn loose from an unknown location and finally brought under control, had caused immediate concern from officials who thought it might hit a bridge and explode. "I don't think I'd even go 10ft near the river right now," Captain Larry Collier of the Fairfax County police, said. "Huge logs and trees are being picked up and thrown around like straws. There's mud everywhere."

Further north in Pennsylvania, the Susquehanna River swamped Harrisburg, the state capital, bursting a bridge and overwhelming the Governor's mansion as 1,000 residents were evacuated. The city was closed to all but its inhabitants and railway lines were blocked for the day.

In the upstream town of Wilkes-Barre, meanwhile, thousands returned to their homes yesterday morning as the worst floods began to subside. Tom Ridge, the Governor, who was forced to spend the night at a police barracks, accused the federal Government of being too slow in its response to Pennsylvania's needs.

He demanded further aid from Washington in addition to sums already promised by President Clinton. The state had become the worst victim of blizzards which buried the East Coast more than a week ago. The Republican Governor said the Administration and the Federal Emergency Management Agency had ignored his pleas for help.

Clinton to aim Union speech at voters

By Tom Rhodes

PRESIDENT CLINTON is expected to offer an upbeat summons for America to meet the challenges of the 21st century when he unofficially launches his re-election campaign tomorrow in a State of the Union speech primarily designed to impress a voting public far beyond the hostile halls of Congress.

Mr Clinton, who may not announce his candidacy formally until the spring, is expected to renew calls for a budget agreement and an increase in the minimum wage. However, the main thrust of this year's message is likely to be a philosophical portrait of America entering the new century in an "age of possibilities" that its citizens must seize.

The White House, recognising that the President might receive a frosty reception on Capitol Hill if he were to concentrate on a full legislative agenda when budget negotiations have come to a standstill, sees the speech as a broad brush attempt to enhance Mr Clinton's image in an election year. Aides said yesterday that he planned to emphasise the strength of the economy, of schools, churches and communities in forming a prosperous America ready to meet the millennium.

"It's really an opportunity to try to draw both sides of the aisle together, as we think about America's future," Mike McCurry, the White House spokesman, said.

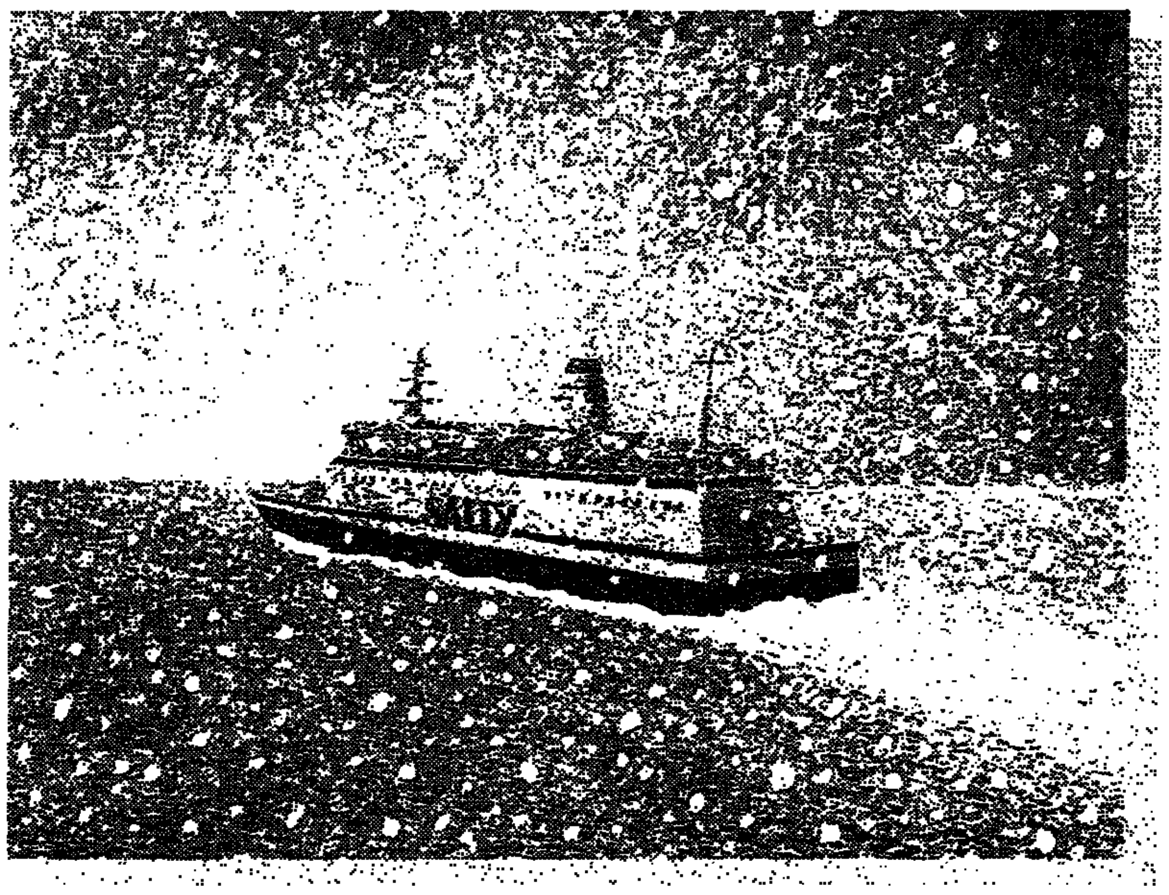
Mr Clinton has said that he spent the first two years of his presidency consumed with policy and legislation, and too little time charting the nation's moral course. Now that his legislative role is seriously limited by Republican control of Congress, the President will draw on the momentum of being the incumbent and will emphasise American leadership in the world from Ireland to the Middle East.

Mr Clinton is also expected to focus on nearly eight million jobs that have been created during his Administration, on initiatives to improve pensions, on family security and better measures against crime. He is also likely to tap into the widespread resentment of government which swept the Republicans to power in 1994.

"The President will argue that it's not always a government response that is required, it's not always a response that requires spending of taxpayers' money," Mr McCurry said.

Ironically, as his Republican opponents are being assessed continually in terms of their ability to emulate Ronald Reagan, Mr Clinton is also harking back to the 1984 State of the Union speech by the former Republican President whose theme, "America is Back", was a positive message for the nation to secure values at home and peace abroad.

That speech, considered by many Clinton advisers to be a classic, was shortly followed by Mr Reagan's formal re-election announcement. Richard Nixon, Jimmy Carter and George Bush also used the forum as a way to outline the main themes of the campaign before announcing their candidacy shortly afterwards, but Mr Clinton may wait until April.



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Top Gun producer found dead

From Giles Whittell in Los Angeles

DON SIMPSON, whose films and lifestyle seldom veered from the fast lane of Hollywood excess, has been found dead in a bathroom at his Los Angeles estate.

The producer of hits such as *Flashdance, Top Gun* and *Beverly Hills Cop*, Mr Simpson helped to generate more than $2 billion (£1.29 billion) for the film studios, and became an icon of the reckless materialism of the 1980s. Drug abuse left his final months shrouded in controversy, however, and jeopardised a long and lucrative partnership with his fellow producer, Jerry Bruckheimer.

His death at 52 appeared to have been from natural causes, a police spokesman said on Saturday, although a post mortem examination is planned and an investigation is under way. Tall, burly, and known for his quick temper as well as a bold creative streak, he revelled in his image as a Hollywood "bad boy".

It was the second death in five months at the estate. In August, Dr Stephen Ammerman, an aspiring screenwriter, was found dead of a drug overdose in a guesthouse.

Russia halts nuclear talks as relations with US cool

From Tom Rhodes in Washington

AMID the increasing turbulence of its relationship with America, Russia has suspended talks on the implementation of nuclear weapons and security agreements announced by President Clinton and President Yeltsin at their summit last year.

The leaders had agreed on a regular exchange of information on weapons stockpiles and other nuclear materials, reciprocal monitoring of storage facilities and ensuring protection of the data in the shortest possible time.

Eight months after they issued a joint statement on nuclear-weapons reduction, nothing has happened. American officials are blaming Moscow for essentially suspending talks at a time of worsening relations, with the removal of almost all pro-Western reformers from Mr Yeltsin's inner circle and the damaging situation in Chechenia.

A legal agreement ensuring protection of all reciprocal information has never been negotiated and the United States has refused to allow Russian officials access to its only warhead dismantling facility near Amarillo, Texas, because Moscow has blocked American visits to a comparable plant.

Under the declaration, Mr Clinton and Mr Yeltsin "urged progress" in pursuing the terms of the 1994 accord, by which Russia was to cease its production of plutonium. As America has been unable to raise the money needed to help Russia to replace electric power from plutonium-producing reactors, this goal has also fallen by the wayside.

The failure to implement the agreements has contributed to mistrust on Capitol Hill of both the ability and will of the Russian defence establishment to carry out its promises. During its debate on the Start II arms reduction treaty before Christmas, the Senate approved a resolution of ratification, requiring Mr Clinton to follow set procedures if Russia did not comply.

If diplomatic pressure is unsuccessful, Mr Clinton must return to the Senate to determine whether America should still be bound by the 1991 treaty, which directs both countries to make deep cuts in their nuclear arsenals and delivery systems by 2003.

Russian ratification is said to be far from imminent because of strong opposition in the new Duma, where Communists were returned to in strength last month.

Secret US arms depots

Vienna: Austria's leadership yesterday demanded that America supply details of 79 secret arms depots that remain scattered across Austria more than 40 years after they were hidden in case of a Soviet invasion.

"The Americans should give us a plan indicating where the weapons depots are, how seriously they have to be taken and what dangers they pose," Franz Vranitzky, the Chancellor, said.

Swanee Hunt, the US Ambassador to Austria, told Mr Vranitzky on that the US had stockpiled the weapons as an occupation power in the early 1950s without notifying the Austrian Government.

"This is a relic from the Cold War," she told Austrian television. She said that the US Government "was cleaning house" when it uncovered the information. The stockpiles included guns, pistols and explosives, but no atomic, biological or chemical weapons, and did not pose a threat to the population.

Herr Vranitzky cautiously indicated on television the possibility of secret stockpiles from the other occupation forces, including Britain.

Film of Robert Kennedy killing 'stolen'

By Giles Whittell

AN ENDURING mystery surrounding the assassination of Robert Kennedy nearly 30 years ago has deepened with the disappearance of two rolls of film that may include previously unseen images of the attack that killed him.

The pictures were taken by Jamie Enyart, then 15, who attended the rally at the Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles on June 5, 1968, at which Kennedy was shot. The films were rediscovered last year in a secret state archive, and were claimed by Mr Enyart.

In a plot twist that has brought allegations of a cover-up, the two films were reported "stolen" minutes before an official courier was to deliver them to Mr Enyart's home. Mr Enyart is suing Los Angeles for $2 million (£1.3 million) for their safe return. "Somebody is making sure those photos do not reach public view," Mr Enyart's lawyer said last week.

George Gephardt, the courier, claims the envelope containing the films was taken from the passenger seat when he stopped to check a tyre on his rented car. Facing an expensive legal settlement, city officials have endorsed his account and offered a $5,000 reward for the envelope's return. As was the case with John Kennedy's assassination, a prime suspect in the killing of his younger brother was quickly identified. He was Sirhan Sirhan, a Palestinian American, who was wrestled to the ground at the scene of the crime and charged with murdering the New York Senator, who was also the Democratic Party's new presidential nominee.

Images of the dying politician, taken by staff photographers from the *Los Angeles Times* and *Life* magazine, were reproduced around the world and contained nothing to undermine the case against Sirhan.

Kennedy: presidential *hopeful shot in 1968*

[هكذا من الأصل]

Day one of our two-part series: A treatment trial – and a diagnostic key

- **■** Volunteers are needed to assist researchers in a new study of the different available therapies, writes **Nigel Hawkes**
- **■** **Anjana Ahuja** reports on recent research that points to a simple blood test to identify damage to the lumbar nerves
- **■** And **Giles Coren** provides some facts and figures on the painful condition that affects 34 million Britons every year

TOMORROW

- **■** Back pain can be a symptom of various diseases, says **Dr Thomas Stuttaford**
- **■** **Jeremy Laurance** examines the latest guidelines issued to family doctors and explains why bed rest is the worst course of action for back sufferers
- **■** A guide to treatments, by **Rita Carter**

Does surgery offer the best solution?

THE PROS AND CONS OF SPINAL FUSION

NIGEL HAWKES

More than three quarters of us suffer back pain at some time in our lives. For most, happily, the problem resolves itself without much treatment — but for a minority it does not.

These unfortunates are in trouble, because there are no proven procedures that work in all cases. Often a long trail around the consulting rooms and the chiropractors leads to nothing but more pain.

Eventually, like the cricketer Ian Botham, they may opt for spinal fusion, an operation that welds together two or more of the vertebrae in the back. The operation was originally developed for the treatment of tuberculosis and polio, and seemed to relieve back pain caused by these diseases. So it has become popular for treating persistent back pain.

In the US, some 20,000 spinal fusion operations are carried out every year. Here, says Jeremy Fairbank, consultant orthopaedic surgeon at the Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre in Oxford, nobody knows the number. "We probably do only about a tenth as many as in the US," he says. Now he is helping to organise a trial designed to see if we should be doing any at all.

While surgeons can produce plenty of patients who swear by the operation, it has never been subject to a properly controlled trial. Unlike drugs, surgical procedures can be introduced by innovative surgeons without the need to show they are any better than existing treatments.

"The literature is full of papers about spinal fusion," says Mr Fairbank, "but they tend to be personal series — my first hundred spinal fusions, that sort of thing. That's not good enough."

He and his colleagues at Oxford have launched an ambitious attempt to conduct a trial in which spinal fusion is compared with a non-surgical rehabilitation programme to establish whether it really is the cure its proponents claim.

Mr Fairbank and James Wilson MacDonald are looking for 1,000 volunteers, at 14 centres in the UK and one in Dublin, who are aged 18 to 55, who have had at least a year of back pain and whose specialists say are suitable cases for spinal fusion.

Those who volunteer will be split into two groups: half will have the operation, while the other half will have a three-week residential programme of rehabilitation, involving both physiotherapy and psychotherapy. The trial is designed to last three years, with another two for follow-up. The Medical Research Council is backing a pilot stage which will be extended if enough patients are recruited.

People who have set their heart on surgery should not apply, because allocation between the two groups will be done randomly, and they might find themselves on the rehabilitation course instead. A video is being made to explain the nature of the trial.

The effectiveness of each type of treatment will be measured by questionnaires, a "disability index" widely used to measure the extent of back pain, and walking tests in which the patients will walk up and down a ten-metre walkway before a buzzer sounds. The time allowed gets shorter and shorter until they can no longer complete the course in the time allowed.

Mr Fairbank says the trial is important both to clarify the status of a controversial operation, and as a benefit to the health service, which has no clear guidance over what kind of treatment to provide for back pain. "At the moment there are a plethora of treatments available for back pain," he says.

"We just don't understand the pathology underlying the problem, and there is a spectrum of disorders that may be causing the pain. At this centre we operate at present on about 10 per cent of the patients referred to us, but in some centres nobody will do it."

One surgeon who does defend spinal fusion is John O'Brien, of the London Clinic in Harley Street. He says that it is not an alternative to rehabilitation, but something to consider when all other measures have failed.

"If inadequate surgical training, poor surgical technique, poor patient selection, wrong level surgery and incorrect diagnosis prevail, fusion for backache must stop," he wrote recently in the *British Medical Journal*. "But with the right preparation, for the right patient, it is the right treatment because it is the only treatment of the painful lesion."

Mr O'Brien has operated on more than 1,000 patients, two thirds of whom had had earlier, unsuccessful surgery. His technique, a simultaneous combined anterior and posterior fusion, involves approaching the spine from the front, through the abdomen, and then through the back.

In the first part of the operation the damaged disc is removed, which can only be done from the front, Mr O'Brien says. He puts in a bone graft to take up the space occupied by the disc, then the patient is turned over and screws inserted into the fused region to support the graft.

Mr O'Brien's upbeat view contrasts with that of Professor Peter Rubin, of the University Hospital in Nottingham, who concluded in the *BMJ*: "Hard choices are having to be made about expenditure in the NHS. On the evidence available I would find it hard to support the purchase of spinal fusion for backache."

The only way such controversies can be settled is by a controlled trial, though even that is not guaranteed to give the answer. But it is certainly better than stumbling on in the dark, with enthusiasts and sceptics exchanging statistics while patients' backs go on hurting.

ATTARD

While the experts argue about surgery, sufferers are often left to put up with the pain

The tell-tale brown spot

TESTING FOR NERVE DAMAGE

SCIENCE PHOTO LIBRARY

A new blood test could detect stress in the lumbar nerves

The clue lay in spot 719. About halfway down the small sheet of film, in a site that should have been occupied by a small golden spot, there was a big brown blob. "The difference was quite clear," says Christopher Pearce triumphantly.

Mr Pearce, head of Electrophoretics International (EI), a scientific company based in London, has good reason to feel triumphant. Scientists working for the company discovered last year that chronic lumbar pain caused by pressure on the nerve is associated with an excess production of a particular protein. Such pressure leads to a condition known as peripheral nerve damage. Last month the company patented a potentially profitable method of detecting the protein marker using just a blood sample.

The trick was to find a way of mapping all the proteins found in blood. To do this, the company made use of electrophoresis, the separation of constituent components of a substance according to mass or electric charge. Unusually, EI uses two-dimensional electrophoresis, which sifts components in terms of both mass *and* electric charge.

The protein map starts with a blood sample. The clear liquid plasma, containing the proteins, is extracted and put into a tank of liquid, and then a transparent gel film, which resembles photographic film, is added.

By applying a voltage horizontally across the tank, the estimated 1,200 proteins in the plasma are separated out across the film. Then a vertical voltage is applied. This has no effect on the horizontal positions of the proteins but encourages them to creep up or down according to their masses. The movement stops when each protein is in equilibrium. By staining with silver, this invisible multitude of protein spots is turned into a pattern of golden and brown spots and splodges, with each protein occupying a distinct, numbered site. The amount of silver sticking to each site is proportional to the amount of protein there.

EI's scientists prepared protein maps for healthy people and for patients suffering peripheral nerve damage, and compared them. This comparison was done by digitising the maps by computer, and asking it to quantify any major differences between the healthy and "nerve damage" maps.

This is where spot 719 came in. The computer spotted that the clumps of silver at this site seemed unusually dense in the nerve damage maps. The blobs were at least two-and-a-half times thicker than normal. A blind trial was able to distinguish, simply by scanning silver density, between the maps of healthy people and those with nerve damage.

By unravelling the protein at spot 719, and developing monoclonal antibodies to indicate its presence, a simple blood test should reveal at an early stage whether a patient has peripheral nerve damage, and whether an operation is necessary. Such a test could be available next year.

According to Mr Pearce the early-warning test is more accurate than current scanning techniques and cheaper than opening up the spinal canal, which is the conventional way of finding out whether nerves are damaged.

ANJANA AHUJA

BACK FACTS

■ Thirty-four million people suffer backache in Britain every year, three times as many as were reported ten years ago.

■ As a result we lose 81 *million* working *days* each year (*predicted to* rise to 106 million this year).

■ Back problems account for 15.5 million consultations in GPs' surgeries and outpatient clinics each year. Annual DSS payments to back sufferers come to £1.4 billion.

■ Treatment for sufferers costs the National Health Service £480 million a year — *making an overall* "back payment" of £5.6 billion.

■ Sixty per cent of the UK population will suffer back pain at some point in their lives: more than half of those people will never even get a diagnosis.

■ A Medical Research Council study has shown that sufferers treated by chiropractors do 70 per cent better than those given hospital outpatient care.

■ *According to the Clinical Standards* Advisory Group, only 5-10 per cent of sufferers treated in hospitals in 1993 actually required hospital skills: those with rare tumours of the spine, disc and nerve problems.

■ British osteopaths have warned children that too much time slumped in front of the television can lead to a lifetime of back trouble.

■ The geography of your spine, in descending order:
Cervical spine: the topmost seven vertebrae, supporting the skull.
Thoracic spine: 12 vertebrae down the rear wall of the chest. A pair of ribs is attached to each vertebra.
Lumbar spine: the five vertebrae most under pressure during lifting.
Sacrum: five fused vertebrae, articulated with the hips.
Coccyx: four fused vertebrae.

■ Five pains in the back:
Osteoarthritis: due to degeneration of *the joints* between the vertebrae.
Fibrositis: pain and tenderness in the larger back muscles.
Sciatica: pain in the buttock and back of the leg due to pressure on a nerve.
Coccygodynia: pain and tenderness at the base of the spine, often after a fall.
Pyelonephritis: pain in the loin due to infection of the kidney.

■ Non-surgical therapies include:
Chiropractic: British Chiropractic Association, 01734 757557.
Physiotherapy: Chartered Society of Physiotherapy, 0171-242 1941.
Osteopathy: Osteopathic Information Service, 01734 512051.
Alexander technique: Society of Teachers of Alexander Technique, 0171-351 0828.

GILES COREN

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‘Corruption and poverty are killing thousands of species’

CHIP HIRES/GAMMA

"I don't think that sitting back and being quiet is in my blood," Richard Leakey says. "Perhaps it's the missionary genes that brought my family here three generations ago"

There have been five mass extinctions in the Earth's history. Richard Leakey talks to **Sam Kiley** about his crusade to halt the sixth

There was nothing subtle about the yellow-eyed Special Branch officer assigned by Kenya's President Daniel arap Moi to watch Richard Leakey. Lounging in a white saloon car outside Dr Leakey's office, he brushed crumbs off his belly and sat up to fix any visitor with a long stare, hoping to intimidate.

Since the palaeoanthropologist and conservationist turned to opposition politics last year, phone tappings, thrashings from police armed with rubber whips, and stonings by the ruling party's rent-a-thug youth wing have become occupational hazards.

Why, having lost both kidneys (his brother gave him one of his) and then both his legs below the knees in a plane crash, doesn't Dr Leakey, 51, pull up a safari chair and enjoy the view from his eyrie overlooking the Rift Valley? Having been the much admired head of Kenya Wildlife Services and credited with saving Kenya's elephants from extinction, he could make a handsome living, and enjoy celebrity, on the American lecture circuit. Or why doesn't he take up numerous offers to run the national parks systems in other African countries, rather than install himself in modest offices opposite the Kwality Hotel — up two flights of stairs that cannot be easy on artificial legs.

"Perhaps it's the missionary genes that brought my family here three generations ago. I don't think that sitting back and being quiet is in my blood," he says.

That crusading zeal which impelled him to form the Safina (The Ark) party last year, and act as a political magus in uniting Kenya's fractious, tribally divided opposition parties, has also driven him to write his latest book, *The Sixth Extinction: Biodiversity and Its Survival* (with Roger Lewin), which is published next month. The aim of the work is to give humanity a cold shower, and it has a link to his more mundane political activities. "I want to end the arrogance of our species and introduce some humility," he says.

His previous six books have dealt with human evolution, based in large part on the findings of his parents, Louis and Mary, and his own discoveries in the sedimentary rocks around Lake Turkana, Kenya's most remote and inhospitable desert area. The seventh has a bolder agenda, to explode the commonly held notion theory that evolution has been a gradual progress towards perfection, leading inevitably to the human species as its crowning glory.

Dr Leakey has nailed his colours to the mast of "catastrophism": the idea that the species which inhabit the Earth today are here not because their ancestors had the best genes, enabling them to survive among the fittest, but by good fortune, because their ancestors were able to survive mass extinctions. Those catastrophes carried away up to 95 per cent of other life forms in very short periods of time, leaving the survivors to evolve in their own time.

According to Dr Leakey, our planet has been shaken by five major extinctions in the last 4,000 million years. The first, 450 million years ago, occurred shortly after the evolution of the first land-based plants and 100 million years after the Cambrian explosion of animal life beneath the seas. Wipe-out number two came in 350 million BC, causing the formation of coal forests. Then the Earth received a double whammy during the Triassic period, between 250 and 200 million years ago, and a fifth, ending the reptilian dominance of the Earth, in 65 million BC, at the end of the Cretaceous period. This has led to the current mammalian domination of Earth.

"If the history of life is seen as a drama staged on planet Earth, then it can be seen as having repeated intermissions [mass extinctions], after each of which the cast on stage changes: some characters previously important disappear entirely, or assume minor roles; others, in the wings, now move to stage front in major roles; new characters sometimes appear, too, producing a constantly shifting ... effect," writes Dr Leakey.

‘I want to end our arrogance and bring some humility’

The causes of the extinctions are a matter of heated debate, but Dr Leakey favours the view that they have been set off by collisions between the Earth and massive asteroids and comets. Few other explanations for the sudden disappearance of almost all life from the planet in short time periods can be found.

So what is the Sixth Extinction? When is it coming? And what is its cause? "It's the next annihilation of vast numbers of species. It is happening now. And we, the human race, are its cause," explains Dr Leakey. Every year, between 17,000 and 100,000 species vanish from our planet, he says. For the sake of argument, let's assume the number is 50,000 a year. "Whatever way you look at it, we're destroying the Earth at a rate comparable with the impact of a giant asteroid slamming into the planet, or even a shower of vast heavenly bodies."

The statistics he has assembled are alarming. Fifty per cent of the Earth's species will have vanished inside the next 100 years; mankind is using almost half the energy available to sustain life on the planet, and this figure will grow as our population leaps from 5.7 billion to ten billion inside the next half century.

"Anyone who has the least intelligence should be concerned about this. It affects the generations that immediately follow our own," Dr Leakey says. But he shies away from offering a prescription for what should be done to slow down the Sixth Extinction. "I used to have prescriptions for everything. Now, I see the world as a more complicated place. I'm older and wiser, and less prone to lecture.

"The aim of the book is to make people aware that, because we are the asteroid or comet heading for Earth, we can at least try to control its size and trajectory."

But surely Dr Leakey must have identified what it is that is causing mankind to foul its own nest? "Well, yes. The underlying cause of species loss is poverty. Until we improve the living conditions of all people so that they have jobs and leisure, the pressure on land and species will remain very strong."

It is this conclusion, not spelt out in *The Sixth Extinction*, which in large part prompted Dr Leakey to enter the brutal world of Kenyan politics, where less troublesome opposition figures have been tortured, or die in inexplicable car crashes.

"There is very little point in getting involved in any kind of conservation if the political and economic environment is not right. One's hard work to save animals will come to nothing if the human population is suffering under mismanagement and corruption. So that is my new crusade."

Does he have any hope of slowing down the Sixth Extinction or of saving Kenya from its plundering politicians? "I would not go so far as to say these are hopeless; success in both is, however, improbable in the short term."

On the trail of black holes

Anjana Ahuja on the satellite search for collapsing stars

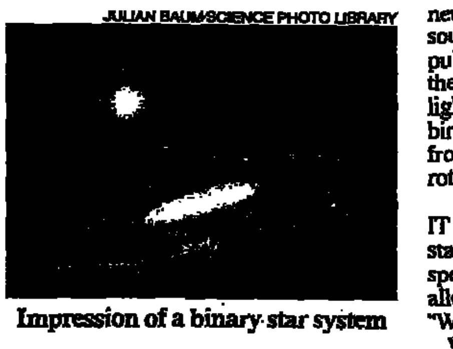
DEATH BY black hole is an unpleasantness of life in outer space. Egged on by a voracious, gravitational appetite, the black hole feeds on its environment, sucking in cosmic dust. If it is part of a binary star system, it gradually eats its companion.

Just before matter is sucked in, it accelerates, heats up and emits X-rays. Equipment built at the Goddard Space Flight Centre in Maryland and placed aboard Nasa's X-ray Timing Explorer (XTE) satellite will detect these X-rays. Launched last month, XTE is also designed to study collapsed stars other than black holes, such as neutron stars and white dwarfs, in an attempt to understand how stars age and die. Another experiment, the All-Sky Monitor, will try to find evidence of the estimated 1,000 black holes in our galaxy.

The stability of a star depends on a tug-of-war between the outward pressures produced by nuclear fusion in its core, and the inward pull of gravity. The trouble starts when the star runs out of fuel, allowing gravity to take over. Astronomers agree that the destiny of a collapsing star then depends on how big it was to start with. Tiny stars become brown dwarfs and fade away. Stars up to eight times the mass of the Sun shed their outer layers to become white dwarfs.

The biggest stars explode as supernovae. Smaller supernovae are compressed into neutron stars, composed entirely of neutrons. The larger supernovae become space-warping, infinitely dense black holes, from which even light cannot escape.

JULIAN BAUM/SCIENCE PHOTO LIBRARY



Impression of a binary star system

Astronomers want to work out how far across these black holes stretch, says Dr Jean Swank, the Goddard scientist overseeing the three-year mission. "Just before the material plunges in, it makes one final orbit of the mouth and emits distinctive X-rays," she says. "These X-ray signatures tell us how big the mouth is."

Einstein's theory of general relativity may depend on these measurements. "Putting a black hole's spatial dimensions together with its mass gives us the ultimate test of Einstein's theory," Dr Swank says.

Why study neutron stars? Rotating neutron stars are thought to be the sources of pulsing radiation known as pulsars. The waves sweep past Earth as the star rotates, like the regular flash of a lighthouse lamp. Many are part of a binary system, and accumulate matter from their companion. This speeds up the rotation, and the flashing accelerates.

IT CANNOT go on for ever. "The neutron stars start trying to spin faster than the speed of light, and the equations won't allow them to do this," Dr Swank says. "We don't know what happens next."

White dwarfs spend their final years leaking radiation and dimming to a dark corpse. However, they may aspire to a grander, as yet unseen, fate. By gathering matter, it is thought they can "jump" up the scale of stars to become a neutron star. XTE will test this.

Lastly, the All-Sky Monitor will allow the satellite to latch on to black holes in our galaxy. They betray their existence through X-ray radiation, and this radiation waxes and wanes unpredictably. By spotting rising transients, XTE may uncover many of the black holes invisible to its less sophisticated predecessors.

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Predictor of smoker's illness

☐ Crow's feat ☐ Cancer hope

Gene link to heart risk

SCIENCE BRIEFING

Nigel Hawkes

WHEREVER you look there is nitric oxide, and I do not mean the pollutant produced by motor vehicles. It turns out that the chemical with the name NO is involved in a host of biochemical pathways, lowering blood pressure, storing memories, saving the lives of newborn babies, controlling rage and now, it seems, helping to determine which smokers will develop heart disease.

Dr David Wilcken and colleagues from Prince Henry Hospital in Sydney screened 550 patients who had complained of chest pains for a range of 20 different genes. They found that the gene responsible for making the enzyme NO synthase was strongly linked to the risks of heart disease in the smokers.

About 7 per cent of the population carries a form of the gene that reduces NO production and increases their heart risks threefold. But possession of the gene had no obvious effects in non-smokers, the team reports in *Nature Medicine*.

The finding may help to explain why it is that some people can smoke and live to a healthy old age, while others can't. But it isn't especially surprising because NO is well-known to relax blood vessels and ease blood flow.

A similar effect of NO is being used in a big trial in the US, launched last year. Here the idea is to use the gas to dilate the blood vessels in the lungs and to treat conditions caused by inadequate oxygen in the blood. Among the guinea pigs in this trial will be babies suffering from a condition called PPHN, or persistent pulmonary hypertension of the newborn.

The hope is that simply feeding NO gas into the lungs through a tube will help to control the condition. Dr Richard Straube of the BOC Group's Ohmeda Pharmaceutical Products Division, who is running the trial, says he is happy with how it is going but it is too early to know whether it is going to work.

Birds with their own tool-kit

MAN THE tool-maker may not be so unusual after all. Crows in New Caledonia make and use tools in a manner until now deemed to be the hallmark of humanity.

Dr Gavin Hunt, a New Zealand zoologist, watched crows using two types of tool to extract insects, larvae and worms from holes in trees or from beneath leaves. One was a hooked twig stripped of leaves and bark, the other the leaves of the Pandanus tree trimmed and shaped into a saw-cut shape.

The crow's tools had three features not observed in the animal world before, Dr Hunt reports in *Nature*: a high degree of standardisation, distinctly different tool types of characteristic shapes, and the use of hooks.

This makes the crows as advanced as *Homo erectus*, the human ancestor who emerged 1.8 million years ago.

Peptide suppresses tumour cells

SCIENTISTS at Dundee University have identified a compound that may be able to stop the uncontrolled growth of cancer cells. The molecule — a peptide made up of 20 amino acids — can mimic the effects of a much larger protein which normally acts to suppress tumours. In many human cancers, including breast, brain, pancreatic and skin cancers, this protein is not produced in appropriate amounts because the gene responsible for making it is faulty.

A team led by Dr Robin Fåhraeus in Professor David Lane's laboratory at Dundee reports in *Current Biology* that a small part of the protein is all that is needed to restore normal function to cells. Easy and cheap to produce; the peptide is now to be tested in animals.

THE TIMES / DILLONS LECTURE

Richard Leakey and the Sixth Extinction

THE FIVE mass extinctions of species on the planet were all natural disasters. Speaking at a *Times*/Dillons lecture on Monday, February 12, Richard Leakey, the Kenyan politician and renowned palaeoanthropologist and conservationist, will warn us that we are heading for a sixth.

Our capacity to exploit the world's resources beyond the point of natural renewal is leading us to the verge of a man-made catastrophe, he says. *Homo sapiens* could destroy entire species and trigger the sixth extinction.

The lecture marks the publication of Dr Leakey's new book (with Roger Lewin), *The Sixth Extinction: Biodiversity and Its Survival* (Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £18.99), and will be held at the Institute of Education, 20 Bedford Way, London WC1, starting at 7.30pm. Tickets at £10 (£7.50 concessions), which includes £3 off the price of Dr Leakey's book, are available by phoning 0171-915 6613, by faxing the coupon below on 0171-580 7680, or by sending the coupon with your remittance to: Dillons, 82 Gower Street, London WC1E 6EQ, where tickets can also be purchased.

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هكذا من الأصل

We are not a grandmother

CHRIS HARRIS

Lady in waiting: "We want someone to spoil and to love and to play with, then say goodbye to," says Mary Bolton

Young women are starting their families later — if they choose to start them at all. But their own mothers increasingly feel that they are missing out on some responsibility-free baby fun. **Julia Llewellyn Smith** talks to some frustrated grannies

It is a rite of passage, as significant to most women as getting married or having a child. Becoming a grandmother marks more than just the transition into the last third of life; for many, it is a longed-for opportunity to relive the delights of babies and young children without having to suffer any of the attendant hardships such as pregnancy, childbirth and broken nights.

In previous generations, this transition was quite automatic. Women were married and had children before they were 25; by the time they were in their fifties, they could confidently expect to have grandchildren.

Today's generation of fifty-somethings, however, are having to wait rather longer before they can echo the famous words of a delighted Margaret Thatcher when her first grandchild was born: "We are a grandmother."

More and more younger women are putting off having a family in order to pursue a career, and it is not uncommon for them to wait until their thirties before having children. Even when they do, it is quite likely that the demands of their own or their husband's job will have entailed them moving some distance away from their childhood home, so that the new grandmother sees her grandchildren only occasionally, as opposed to every day or even every week.

Mary Bolton is 50 years old, has two sons aged 25 and 22, and is dying to be a grandmother. "When I see a toddler I can't take my eyes off it," she says wistfully. "I am used to feeling responsible for someone. You don't get out of the business of caring, and when you don't have to do it any more you feel at a loss."

A college lecturer, she knows she may have to wait for ten or 20 years before she gets the chance to care for someone again.

"Both my sons have just embarked on successful careers, neither of them shows any sign of getting married and I would be horrified if they did get a girl pregnant, because they're simply not ready for it. But at the same time, I can't help wanting to be a grandmother."

Like thousands of women in their fifties and sixties who married young and sacrificed a career for their families, she is longing to be presented with the next generation.

"We feel we have done the hard slog and now we want to have some fun," she says. "It is a selfish feeling, but we want someone to spoil and to love and to play with, but whom at the end of the day we can say goodbye to."

According to last year's Social Trends survey, published by the Government statistical service, the number of women childless at the age of 30 has doubled in the past 20 years from 19 per cent to 37 per cent. The Family Policy Studies Centre predicts that a fifth of all British women born after 1960 will never have babies, while one in four will never marry.

"I think a lot of my generation feel a bit resentful," says Mrs Bolton. "We want some fun and we want it before we need Zimmer frames."

> 'A lot of my generation are feeling a bit resentful'

Virginia Campbell, 52, has two children of 27 and 25 who are both unmarried. "I'm afraid I won't have the energy I have now in ten years' time to do things I would love to do with my grandchildren, like taking them shopping and to the zoo," she says. "Just as people who marry late get very set in their ways, people who become grandparents very late find it difficult to adapt to the world their grandchildren live in."

Others worry that their children will be too old to cope with the strains of late parenthood. "I had four children by the time I was 30 and I fear for the amount of energy these career girls can put into bringing up children," says Edna Barwell, 51.

She makes her opinions felt: "I say to my 21-year-old daughter, 'I want you married by the time you are 25.' I am being a little bit serious because I know there are too many girls out there who are 30 and would love to be married, but who were too fussy when they were younger."

Marcia Feldman, 50, whose 27-year-old son recently married, has no qualms about egging on her new daughter-in-law: "When I went shopping with her before she went on holiday, I bought her a beautiful bikini and said 'Go away, have a lovely time and come back pregnant.'

Other mothers tread more carefully. "Of course I would like to be a granny," says Gillian Cassidy, wife of the Conservative MEP, Bryan, whose three children aged between 34 and 31 are all unmarried. "But I am not so sad that I would ever dream of putting my children under any pressure to get married just for the sake of it. I think that gets you into all sorts of trouble."

Those who do become grandmothers may find their joy tempered by the heartache of living hundreds, even thousands of miles away.

Inger O'Hanlon's eldest daughter was 22 when she married an Australian and went to live in Tasmania, where she had two children, now aged 21 and 19. "It was about as far away as you can get," she says. "I didn't see my grandchildren until the eldest was two and a half.

"It was frustrating, not being there when they were born. I was sitting here knitting away and I remember ringing the hospital and hearing this little squeaky sound.

"The grandchildren wrote to me when they were small, but now they're students and they're too busy. They have been to England three times and since 1983, I have been to see them every second year. I stay for about four months.

"Going to Australia can be pretty tough, so when I reached my seventies I started travelling business class, which costs nearly £3,000. So I have to plan for that: I think I'd better not buy this or that and I'll stick with my old television and video, but it's definitely worth it."

Lynette Walker, 56, has four daughters aged between 31 and 24. Two live in Australia and one is emigrating to New Zealand next year.

When Mrs Walker's first grandchild was born in October, she and her husband flew to Sydney for three and a half weeks and were devastated when it was time to leave. "It was jolly hard, you feel heartbroken that you are not going to see your grandchildren very often.

"Even if we do visit them every two years, they are not going to remember us in between visits. We are missing out on them growing up and it feels almost like a bereavement. My husband and I are immensely sad.

"From my daughter's point of view, I think it is difficult not to be able to ring me for advice when she has a problem with the child, or do the everyday thing of 'Granny, can you take care of the baby while I have my hair done?' Instead you have to go on a mammoth journey and then you have a very concentrated amount of time with them and you have to make the most of every minute.

"But Australia is a marvellous country and there are fantastic opportunities for the girls there. If you know they are happy and healthy you can't ask for more.

"The problem is your children are lent to you for a certain amount of time and you bring them up to be independent and then when you succeed in that, you don't like it one bit."

An audience with Kilroy

The true confessions of a television chat show guest, by **Jane Gordon**

Kilroy: laying on the charm

Just for a second, as the lights intensified and the floor manager signalled that the audience should applaud, I forgot the name of the programme. Was I on *Esther* discussing whether women could have it all? Had I sunk to new depths by contributing some gruesome confession to *Vanessa*?

But then, as the theme music began and a grinning, grey-haired man bounced down the stairs of the studio set, I remembered that this was *Kilroy*.

From time to time I have been invited onto discussion programmes that follow such a similar format that they don't just confuse viewers into wondering which show they are watching, they also muddle the participants.

The studios look the same, the floor-managers give the same fire warnings, and the oily men and women who front the programmes appear at precisely the same moment, a couple of minutes before they go on air, having artificially fostered a first-name intimacy with an audience of strangers.

Of course there are differences. Behind the scenes at *Kilroy*, for instance, the atmosphere was nowhere near as convivial as the forthcoming programme might suggest.

In a big room called Hospitality — known more aptly in television circles as Hostility — the "invited guests" had been crammed together with a motley bunch of people, most of whom looked as if they had been bussed from day-care centres, who would make up the audience.

"Will we have make-up?" asked a worried woman. "Only one person gets hair and make-up on *Kilroy*," muttered a B-list celebrity, "and that's the man himself . . ."

And so began a fascinating conversation in which those of us who had been here — or somewhere very like here — before began to compare notes. How we laughed as we recalled our experiences with *Esther*, the mistress of on-screen familiarity, telling risqué jokes to warm up her audience but switching off the moment the studio lights dimmed. How we tittered when we remembered how we had each been given, as we left the studio at the end of *The Time The Place*, a signed photograph of John Stapleton.

We began to give ratings to the programmes according to the way they had treated us; comparing the minicabs of *Kilroy* with the chauffeur care of *The Time The Place*, the canteen suppers they serve at *Esther* with the smoked salmon sandwiches on *Good Morning*.

Which led us to remember our most frightening moments on various shows — the charming man from the Polite Society recalling how he had been goaded by a hostile audience into finally being rude to the presenter; the novelist who had been brought to tears by a hectoring throng; and my own personal worst — daring to suggest that women should not be so hormone-obsessed to an audience made up entirely of PMS sufferers.

We were in agreement on only one thing — that nice John Stapleton (even if we had all binned the photographs).

In truth, of course, we were very nearly as impressionable as the rest of the audience when the time came to be shown through to the *Kilroy* studio. For as soon as we went on air, as soon as Kilroy *was* here, we were as eager to please him as he seemed eager to please us.

I even found myself playing kneesy with him as he perched next to me and talked to me about my recent revelations — in a *Times* feature — of a mid-life crisis. But then, although I hate to admit it, Kilroy's charm, when the cameras are turning, is undeniable. My, how he ran round that studio, apparently enchanted by his dull, predictable and occasionally incoherent guests.

"I suppose we were right to do it," said a rather distinguished fellow journalist despondently as we were ushered out of the studio at the end of the programme. "I mean, they do say it's good for your profile, don't they?"

In fact, being on these programmes can be very bad for your profile. Not just because, as happened to me, the cameras might catch you at a very unflattering angle (without hair and make-up) but also because it is almost impossible to say anything clever, amusing, profound or even interesting in the ten seconds of airtime they allocate you.

Indeed, I have decided that my brief appearance on Monday's *Kilroy* will be my last. I am much happier facing a future as tomorrow's fish and chip paper than as yesterday's soundbite.

SIGN OF THE TIMES
by Giles Coren

AT A family wedding, when I was very young, a distant uncle came up to me with a big redhead on his arm and said: "Say hello to your Auntie Geena." I stared into her powdered, unfamiliar cleavage and said: "What happened to Auntie Maureen?"

Auntie Maureen was, of course, in Bournemouth. But what was he to say to me? You can't ask a six-year-old to say hello to "my new bird", or "my lover". And even Phil Collins refers to 22-year-old Orianne Cevey as his wife, "because it's better than girlfriend". He well knows that "companion" is too arch and that "mistress" suggests a *fin de siècle* illicitness that no Englishman can carry off.

"This is Orianne," is an option. But everyone knows your marriage is over, so who's Orianne? Your personal trainer? The crucial information remains unimparted. And "fiancée" has to be true.

Nor is it a problem only for separatees. Young American couples use the expression "main squeeze", but that is like saying: "I'd like you to meet Fluffypops." "Significant other" is as bad as "other half", or, in my uncle's case, "other third". But one tries to avoid overtones of troilism.

You could call her "my friend", but you don't want other men thinking they can be her "friend" too, and "the mother of my children" is *rather a celebration of her* fecundity than a title.

My own romantically committed potential possible life mate and materially mutually co-dependent sexually monogamous cohabitee has a peculiar revulsion to the word "partner" because, I assume, it is so horribly 1990s, noncommittal and square. A bit like me. The only answer is to lie like Phil Collins, or marry *her for real, and say "wife"*.

All so that in a few years the distant nephew of some awful man I have yet to meet will be asked, at a family wedding, to call her "Auntie".

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ARTS THE WEEK AHEAD

■ VISUAL ART

Bodies in the park: Czech artist *Jana Sterbak* brings her installations to the Serpentine
OPEN: Now
REVIEW: Tomorrow

■ MUSIC

Christoph von Dohnányi conducts *the Philharmonia* in Festival Hall concerts
STARTS: Wednesday
REVIEW: Friday

■ RECITALS

Fours of destiny: the Emerson Quartet begin a Beethoven cycle at the Queen Elizabeth Hall
STARTS: Wednesday
REVIEW: Friday

■ THEATRE

Slaughter City, by rising playwright Naomi Wallace, is premiered *at the* Barbican Pit
OPENS: Thursday
REVIEW: Saturday

Homage to a great American pioneer

The BBC's celebration of Charles Ives's music, reviewed by **Richard Morrison**

When Charles Ives heard a concertgoer complaining about some dissonant new music, he reputedly growled: "You goddam sissy; when you hear strong masculine music like this, get up and use your ears like a man."

That exhortation, pure John Wayne, says a lot about Ives. He was also, in his way, an all-American hero. By day he played the talented capitalist, building a million-dollar insurance business from scratch. By night he roamed the prairies of the *mind like a rogue buffalo,* writing music that trampled all over the petty fences of convention and thundered into regions that the sophisticated European avant-garde were only to reach years, even decades, later.

A true pioneer, Ives was woefully underperformed in his lifetime (1874-1954). When America did wake up to his genius, it was with amazement — and not just because his scores (though organised with mathematical ingenuity) typically sounded like an accident involving four marching bands, several belfries, a baseball game, a Revivalist meeting and a *couple of barn-dances. For it* was realised that Ives's music was nothing less than a vast, impressionistic soundscape of New England life in the late 19th century.

Mahler wrote about embracing the whole world in his symphonies. Ives actually does embrace the world, or at least *his* world. Nothing is sacred. Spirituals are skewered into riotous rags; solemn evocations of Civil War memorials are cut off by raucous blasts of brass. But that is because, to Ives, *everything* is sacred. He finds a cosmic mystery in the commonplace. The small-town America of his childhood becomes the *stuff of his* mythology.

All this was revealed at the Barbican this weekend in a magnificent BBC festival. It was called *The Unanswered Question, and it began with* the short but celebrated piece of that title in which a trumpet's six-times-repeated question is pitted against an inscrutable dream-world of offstage strings and a quartet of mocking flutes. Thus does Ives write his own epitaph: here, it seems to say, is a questing spirit, forging into the Unknown while suffering incomprehension.

From that epigrammic beginning *the festival spread to* encompass every facet of Ives's tangled and exotic output. Many pieces are stunning depictions of specific times and places — like *Central Park in the Dark*, with its dense cluster of hushed strings noisily punctuated by bursts from distant dance-halls: or the *Holidays Symphony*, rolled out like a grand but crazy tapestry by the BBC Symphony Orchestra under Andrew Davis's ebullient direction. Or *Three Places in New England* — by turns mystical or flamboyant — which was played immaculately by the London Sinfonietta under Oliver Knussen.

Some — like *The Celestial Country*, a hilariously po-faced excursion into Victorian oratorio; or the Sousa-*soaked teenage marches* — are early exercises that give old genres an insouciant twist. Others, notably *The Pond*, written in memory of Ives's revered bandmaster father, are 60-second miniatures that perfectly express something infinitely sad.

But Ives is at his most memorable when he seems to sing, or mourn, or celebrate, for all America. Such is the case in the finale of the Second Orchestral Set. A superbly interwoven texture conjures up the myriad sounds of the city, while in the foreground Ives evokes people on a New York railway platform spontaneously breaking into a hymn on the day in 1915 when the *Lusitania* was sunk.

Davis's handling of this complicated but utterly heartbreaking movement was, for me, the highlight of the festival. But the whole weekend — which involved dozens of weird instrumental and *choral combinations* — was nothing less than a revelation of a neglected colossus. Only the BBC could mount such a vast enterprise. Let's hope *that they never* lose the appetite for doing so.

Charles Ives: the *small-town America of his childhood* became the stuff of his mythology as a composer

POP: **David Sinclair** on the spectacular rise and the unorthodox sound of Björk

As her show in Sheffield proved, the quirky, left-field charms of Iceland's biggest musical export are undiminished by Björk's worldwide success

Playground of the surreal

She has risen from the status of rank outsider to mainstream superstar in less than three years. But apart from a minor setback before Christmas, when she was forced to cancel four shows in America because of nervous exhaustion, Björk appears to have negotiated her unusually rapid ascent without succumbing to the bends. Her music has retained its quirky, left-field charm and, if the transition from the intimacy of the club and theatre venues which she played on her last British dates in *1994* to the vast, *impersonal* spaces of the arena circuit held any fears for the 30-year-old singer, she wasn't letting on about it at Sheffield.

Although less than sold-out, the *12,000-capacity venue was respectably* full for the opening night of this leg of her world tour. The show began, not with a rock'n'roll bang but with the classical music of the Brodsky Quartet, *who regaled the crowd with pieces by* Shostakovich and other severe-sounding East European composers. Björk quietly materialised halfway through their set — a low-key entrance if ever there was one — and co-opted the string quartet as an ad hoc backing group for performances of *Hyper-Ballad, You've Been Flirting Again* and a jarring version of *Isobel*, by which time keyboard player, Guy Sigsworth and piano-accordionist Suzie Katayana had also joined the fray.

Björk
Sheffield Arena

Wearing a plain smock and with her *shoes soon kicked off, Björk skipped* and skittered about the stage like a child in a surreal playground. Behind her, ghostly images of trees, skyscrapers and jagged mountain peaks floated *past, seemingly in mid-air. Trevor* Morais's drum kit and Leila Arab's live mixing console were held together by a mass of thick tentacles instead of the usual metalwork, making them look *more like alien life-forms* than musical instruments. And all around strange bursts of strobe lighting completed the striking, otherworldly effect.

With the Brodsky Quartet now gone, Björk and her four accompanists settled down to business with *Army Of Me*, her menacing vocal underlined by a squirming synth-bass line and Morais's piston-like drum beat. "If you complain once more you'll meet an army of me," she sang, tracing the odd steps of the melody like a growling cat while systematically mangling the vowels *in that unique way which pegs her as* Iceland's biggest-ever musical export.

Her fondness for sub-bass synthesizer frequencies and exotic percussion effects — often bounced from speakers *set at the very back of the hall and* sent swirling around the arena like sounds echoing across a valley — was indulged to the hilt on the "plugged" version of *Hyper-Ballad* and a jungled-up arrangement of *Enjoy*.

The absence of any guitarists or a bass player further contributed to the band's unorthodox sound, and a string of slow numbers, including *Possibly Maybe* and *The Anchor Song*, lacked the sort of momentum which these big occasions demand. But what the show missed in traditional, rabble-rousing dynamics was more than made up for by Björk's inventive and energetic style of projection.

Glitter bombs exploded overhead and plumes of silver fronds blown by air-jets burst into life during *I Miss You*, and the show gradually reached a mighty climax with *Violently Happy*, *delivered as a hypnotic,* Chemical Brothers-style groove that sent Björk into a feverish headbanging routine.

When it finally came, her biggest hit, *It's Oh So Quiet*, was marred by the lack of a *horn* section *(or even a* synthesized substitute), a feature which is central to the dynamic of the song. But it was still a lot of fun, and neatly paved the way for a clapalong romp through *Big Time Sensuality*. A free spirit to the last, Björk rescued her shoes and scooted off stage.

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CLASSICAL CHOICE

A guide to the best available recordings, presented in association with Radio 3

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SHOSTAKOVICH's Piano Quintet
Reviewed by William Mival

Shostakovich, a fine pianist, wrote his Piano Quintet in 1940 in response to a request from the Beethoven Quartet of Moscow, who wanted a work *that they could play with the* composer. The result was a landmark in 20th-century chamber music — a quintet that could stand up even against that of Brahms. When he wrote it, Shostakovich was in the process of renewing his compositional style and evolved a language of direct and appealing emotional statement. But this doesn't make the piece any easier to play. It has a vast expressive range and the five interlinked movements call for a sus*tained level of concentration* from its performers.

Shostakovich's own performance with the Beethoven quartet (Multisonic 310179-2), which he made just after the premiere, suffers from some appalling sound quality. But glimpsed through the fog is an often overwhelming intensity.

Of the modern recordings quite a few suffer from a poor studio balance between the strings and the piano, with one or the other tending to predominate. They include the Alberni Quartet with Clifford Benson (CRD 3351), the Medici Quartet with John Bingham on Nimbus (NI5156) and the London Musici Quartet with Kathryn Stott on Conifer Classics (CDCF 194).

The Kuhmo Chamber Soloists (ODE 744-2) are impassioned and highly emotional. But the general "gravitas" is too unyielding. The Talich Quartet with the pianist Miroslav Langer (Praga PR 254 042) are well recorded and technically assured. But something of substance is lacking.

Both the Nash Ensemble (Virgin Classics VC 7 59312-2) and the Moscow String Quartet with the pianist Constantine (Russian Disc RDCD 10031) give solid accounts and are well *recorded. But both* lack something in the way of strong Russian spirit. The Hollywood Quartet with the pianist Victor Aller (Testament SBT 1077) are exquisite in the more lyrical passages. The 1952 recording, brilliant for its time, means that more rhythmic passages lack punch.

The two best modern recordings are both by well-established trios with extra string players — the Borodin (Chandos CHAN 8342) and the **Beaux** Arts (Philips 432 079-2), £13.95. For Slavic passion then the Borodins have the edge, though in one or two passages that passion does get the better of their intonation. The Beaux Arts give a more disciplined performance. Their timing is almost military and their ensemble and dynamic control are superb.

- *Recommended recordings can be ordered from The Times CD Mail, 29 Pall Mall Deposit, Barlby Road, London W10 6BL (freephone 0500 418419; e-mail: bid@mail.bogo.co.uk)*
- *Next Saturday on Radio 3: Beethoven's Missa Solemnis.*

CONCERT

Clearly clumsy

MARIO VENZAGO'S interpretation of Bruckner's Third Symphony has all the virtues of truth and integrity, yet the result is clumsy and unconvincing.

Bruckner's Third needs persuasion in the presentation, and, above all, the structural profile needs to be so engineered that the last movement takes its place as the climax of the work rather than as a disproportionately short fourth side of a square. On the other hand, for clarity in both structure and texture, it was a performance of unusual interest: except where it is cut frustratingly short in the revision, Bruckner's thinking was presented as an organic process rather than as a crushing architectural weight.

CBSO/Venzago
Symphony Hall, Birmingham

In a concert including Prokofiev's Third Piano Concerto, you do not need much else in the way of a glamorous surface and sensational effect. Leif Ove Andsnes is too sensitive a pianist to insist on the heroic or even brutal aspects of the work. But if his characterisation fell short in one of the possible extremes, in the others, above all in the blending of piano and orchestral colours and the merging of personality, it was extraordinarily imaginative and most subtly accomplished by pianist and conductor alike.

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■ **MUSICAL**

In Leeds, *Love Life* by Kurt Weill and Alan Jay Lerner has its British premiere

OPENS: Thursday
REVIEW: Saturday

■ **FILM**

Robert De Niro and Al Pacino slug it out in the new crime thriller, *Heat*

OPENS: Friday
REVIEW: Thursday

■ **BOOKS**

Scandals in the House . . . again: Edwina Currie puts it all into *A Woman's Place*

IN THE SHOPS: Now
REVIEW: Saturday

■ **POP**

Hitting the country: the Mavericks bring Nashville'n'rock style to Britain

GIGS: On tour from Thurs
REVIEW: Next week

ARTS
TUESDAY TO FRIDAY
IN SECTION 2

Some enchanted evening

OPERA

The Magic Flute
Coliseum

DONALD COOPER

Piping up: Ian Bostridge, Janice Watson, John Connell in the ENO revival of Hytner's production of *The Magic Flute*

The fact that *The Midsummer Marriage* and its progenitor, *The Magic Flute*, are playing concurrently in London makes for a most pleasing conjunction. It is even more pleasing that English National Opera's *Flute* revival should reveal Nicholas Hytner's near-classic production (revived by Henry Little) in what must be its freshest state since it was new eight years ago. It is well cast from top to bottom and excellently conducted.

The conducting is crucial to the revival's success. It is not just that Alexander Sander's tempos are expertly judged or that he uses a small band and elicits light-fingered, clean-cut playing: he exerts tight control over balance and ensures that the singers have no difficulty in projecting the text. Having made a habit recently of criticising the ENO for sloppy diction, I must be the first to praise the cast for the trouble they took last Thursday: I have not heard so much of the sparky Sams translation in this theatre before.

Those who have only heard Ian Bostridge in the recital hall or in Britten may have been surprised at the volume he produced in his house debut as Tamino: golden tone with a soft, buttery edge to it and the sort of indefinable musicianship that time and again imprints a phrase on the listener's imagination. He is an exceptionally fine singer. So is Janice Watson, his absurdly young-looking Pamina, whose account of the G-minor aria was exquisitely shaped and deeply affecting.

She was singing her first Pamina at the Coliseum, and the third important role debutant was Peter Snipp as Papageno. He is a natural comic, but one with an edge of truculence to temper his roguishness and a fine line in melancholy to touch all hearts in the second act. His control of mood was faultless.

No weak links elsewhere. John Connell's wonderfully orotund Sarastro is familiar. Less so is Nicola Sharkey's Queen of the Night, who not only threw off her pyrotechnics with confidence, but also made them mean something dramatically, again mainly through fierce projection of the words. Andrew Slater's Speaker was outstandingly warm of musical line. The chorus was on ebullient form.

However, the treatment, or rather non-treatment, of Monostatos (John Graham-Hall) really is taking political correctness too far. Is the fact that he is trichologically challenged enough on its own for everyone to shrink from him in horror? Baldies of the world unite, say I. But seriously, this is much more than an ordinary, routine *Flute* revival and well worth catching.

RODNEY MILNES

Talking without tongues

THEATRE

Acts Without Words
BAC, SW11

THOUGH directors sometimes forget the fact and actors ignore it, the twin protagonists of *Waiting for Godot* are as much vaudeville performers as tramps. There are pratfalls, misunderstandings, falling trousers, funny business with Laurel and Hardy bowlers and much else to remind us that one of the clown's functions is to mock values and belittle effort. But the two *Acts Without Words* Beckett wrote a bit later take the same thinking even further. Each distils the vanity of human endeavour in 20 minutes of ruefully comic mime.

Andy Lavender has ably staged both plays for Academy Productions at the London Mime Festival and added a piece devised by the company called, aptly, *Speechless*. Since this ends up showing a blind man solemnly constructing card castles with a one-armed man, it is clearly in the same tradition of hopeless hopefulness. What it adds is a little power-politicking between the two: hints of *Endgame* and *Catastrophe*, if you want the Beckett references.

One of the mimes, who simply calls himself Paka, also appears as a clown thrust into a square of glaring white light, teased by offstage whistles, tantalised by a flask of water he cannot reach, and frustrated in everything he attempts, down to hanging himself off a branch that winces away from his noose or cutting his throat with a pair of disappearing scissors. For some reason, suicide is not possible on Beckett's bleak replica of planet Earth. Enduring Sod's Law, God's malignity and/or the pointlessness of existence is the only option.

Paka returns in *Act Without Words II* as a man the stage-directions call "brisk, rapid, precise", while Andrew Fifield plays one who is "slow, awkward, absent". Fifield stumbles from the sack in which he has spent the night, makes desultory attempts to prepare for the day and then slumps back into his makeshift bed. Paka emerges all bright and bushy-tailed, and hyper-efficiently organises everything from his hair to his boots, only to end up where he began. Either way, what was the purpose of getting up or, for that matter, being alive?

Both actors follow Beckett's directions with the strictness he always required, yet still might find more imaginative comedy in the contrast between their characters. After all, officious bustle is funny. So is bumbling sloth. Why not emphasise it?

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

TODAY'S CHOICE

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Kris Anderson

LONDON

EARLY MUSIC AND BAROQUE. The Wigmore continues its excellent series tonight when soprano Deborah York and countertenor James Bowman join the King's Consort for a programme of Scarlatti and Hasse. Alexei Lubimov, one of Heinrich Neuhaus's last students at the Moscow Conservatoire, takes over tomorrow with a recital devoted to Schubert and Brahms.
Wigmore Hall, Wigmore Street, W1 (0171-935 2141) Both at 7.30pm. ◪

THE FIELDS OF AMBROSIA. First night of previews for this American musical. Book and lyrics are by Joel Higgins, who also stars as a state executioner who falls in love with the woman set to be his next "client". Music by Martin Silvestri. A sell-out at its 1993 premiere, with US reviews calling it "original, compelling and fun".
Aldwych, Strand, WC2 (0171-415 6048) Previews tonight-Jan 30, 7.45pm, mat Sat, 3pm. Opens Jan 31, 7pm

ELSEWHERE

BROMLEY: Clarke (*Five Guys Named Moe*) Peters takes his tribute to Nat King Cole, **Unforgettable**, on the road. First seen at the ever-enterprising Theatre Royal Stratford East in London, the show is most entertaining and, of course, packed with tunes.
Churchill, High Street (0181-460 6677) Tonight-Sat 7.45pm, mats Thurs and Sat 2.30pm ◪

LIVERPOOL. The Tate Gallery's big spring exhibition opened this weekend. **Susan Hiller**, another long-term American ex-pat, focuses on art as a kind of storytelling. Her video installation *An Entertainment* was a highlight of last year's *Rites of Passage* show at the Tate in London, and this exhibition centres on *Belshazzar's Feast* (television as a metaphor for the ancient communal hearth) and *Monument*, a combined audio-visual piece.
Tate Gallery, Albert Docks (0151-709 3223) Tue-Sun, 10am-6pm. Until Mar 17 ◪

NOTTINGHAM: **Spring Dance '96** opens at the Playhouse tonight for a week of performances by three contrasting companies. The African ensemble Adzido opens with *Thand - Abantwana* (*Love the Children*), followed by V-Tol with Mark Murphy's *In the Privacy of My Own* and, on Friday, Mark Baldwin's company premieres *Mirrors*, a murder mystery developed on computer, based on old whodunnit films with music by Ravel.
Playhouse, Wellington Circus (0115-941 9419) Tonight-Fri, 7.30pm. ◪

LONDON GALLERIES

Barbican: Contemporary British Tapestry (0171-638 4141) . . **British Library Galleries**: John Keats 1795-1821: first editions, manuscripts, portraits, relics (0171-412 7111) . . **British Museum**: Okyo and Kyoto paintings (0171-636 1555) . . **National Gallery**: Paintings from National Trust Houses (0171-747 2885) . . **National Portrait Gallery**: Richard and Maria Cosway (0171-306 0055) . . **Royal Academy**: David Hockney Drawing Retrospective (0171-439 7438) . . **Tate**: Colin Self (0171-887 8000) . . **V&A**: Jain Art from India; Back of the Envelope: famous art and design scribbles (0171-938 8500)

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ **House full, returns only**
◪ **Some seats available**
☐ **Seats at all prices**

■ **THE DUCHESS OF MALFI**. Cheek by Jowl's often bewildering production of an already confusing play but Anastasia Hille is marvellous as the beleaguered heroine. Final week.
Wyndham's, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-369 1746) Tonight-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Thurs and Sat, 2.30pm

☐ **THE GLASS MENAGERIE**: Sam Mendes's radiant production. Zoe Wanamaker and Claire Skinner play mother and daughter. Ben Walden is Tom.
Comedy, Panton Street, SW1 (0171-369 1731) Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mat Sat, 3pm

☐ **HYSTERIA**. Henry Goodman plays Freud, with Tim Potter as Salvador Dali, in Terry Johnson's surreal, double award-winner. Final week for the funniest serious play in London.
Duke of Yorks, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-836 5122) Tonight-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Thurs and Sat, 3pm ◪

☐ **AN IDEAL HUSBAND**: Peter Hall revives his 1992 production of Wilde's drama of political sleaze and scandal. A star cast includes Martin Shaw, Anna Carteret, Penny Downie.
Theatre Royal, Haymarket, SW1 (0171-930 8800) Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Wed and Sat, 3pm ◪

◪ **AN INSPECTOR CALLS**: Stephen Daldry's powerful production, with Nicholas Woodeson as the all-knowing inspector, and Edward Peel and Susan Engel as the pillars of society.
Garrick, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-494 5085) Mon-Fri 7.45pm, Sat, 8.15pm, mats Wed, 2.30pm, Sat 5pm

☐ **LONDON INTERNATIONAL MIME FESTIVAL**. Mime, acrobatics and the haunting skills of contemporary visual theatre. Companies from Belgium, France, Germany, the Netherlands, Sweden and the UK, at various venues.
Information (0171 637 5661) Until Jan 28

◪ **MACK AND MABEL**. Jerry Herman's musical set in early Hollywood. Fine songs, though a troublesome book. Starring Howard McGillin and a delightful Caroline O'Connor.
Piccadilly, Denman Street, W1 (0171-369 1734) Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Wed and Sat, 3pm

◪ **MOTHER COURAGE AND HER CHILDREN**: Diana Rigg sturdily moving in title role of Brecht's epic denunciation of war. Jonathan Kent directs a new version by David Hare.
National (Olivier), South Bank, SE1 (0171-928 2252) Tonight-Wed, 7.15pm mat Wed, 2pm ◪

◪ **SALTIMBANCO**: The Montreal-based Cirque du Soleil boasts 45 performers (actors, dancers, acrobats), brilliant costumes, no animals.
Albert Hall, Kensington Gore, SW7 (0171-589 8212) Tonight-Sun, 7.45pm check box office for mat schedule

☐ **VOYAGE IN THE DARK**: Strong and poignant production by Sphinx of Jean Rhys' 1934 novel where a naive 19-year-old, adrift in London, finds her hopes for love hitting the rocks. Recommended.
Young Vic Studio, The Cut, SE1 (0171-928 6363) Tonight-Sat, 7.30pm Final week

Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

NEW RELEASES

◆ **DANGEROUS MINDS** (15)
Michelle Pfeiffer brings hope to an inner-city school. Predictable, rose-tinted drama; director, John N. Smith.
MGMs: Baker Street (0171-935 9772) **Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **West End** (01426-915 574) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332)

FAIR GAME (15): Laughable action vehicle for model Cindy Crawford, cast as an attorney in peril. With William Baldwin. Director, Andrew Sipes.
MGM Trocadero ◪ (0171-434 0031) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332) **Warner** ◪ (0171-437 4343)

LEAVING LAS VEGAS (18): Nicholas Cage drinks himself to death. Stinking, intimate drama from director Mike Figgis. With Elisabeth Shue.
Barbican ◪ (0171-638 8891) **Clapham Picture House** (0171-498 3323) **MGMs: Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Haymarket** (0171-839 1527) **Swiss Centre** (0171-439 4470) **Notting Hill Coronet** ◪ (0171-727 6705) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **Screen/Baker Street** (0171-935 2772) **Warner** ◪ (0171-437 4343)

MUTE WITNESS (18). Mute girl witnesses a film studio murder. Exhilarating and cheeky thriller set in Moscow, with Marina Sudina. Director Anthony Waller.
Clapham Picture House (0171-498 3323) **Warner** ◪ (0171-437 4343)

PERSUASION (U). Jane Austen's novel about love lost and found, sensitively adapted by the BBC. With Amanda Root. Director, Roger Michell.
Barbican ◪ (0171-638 8891)

THE UNDERNEATH (15). The classic 1940s thriller *Criss Cross* remade as a stylish puzzle by director Steven Soderbergh. With Peter Gallagher.
MGM Shaftesbury Avenue (0171-836 6279) **Plaza** ◪ (0171-437 1234) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121)

CURRENT

◆ **DEVIL IN A BLUE DRESS** (15): *Splendidly atmospheric thriller with Denzel Washington as the ordinary Joe in late 1940s Los Angeles stumbling over corpses, police and corruption.* From Walter Mosley's novel.
Curzon West End (0171-369 1722) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121)

◆ **GOLDENEYE** (12): Pierce Brosnan twinkles as the new James Bond. A rip-roaring thriller with a sense of humour.
Empire (0171-437 1234) **MGMs: Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Trocadero** ◪ (0171-434 0031) **Odeons: Haymarket** (01426 915353) **Kensington** (01426 914 666) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914 098) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332)

◆ **SEVEN** (18). Unsettling and off-beat serial killer thriller, with Morgan Freeman and Brad Pitt. Director, David Fincher.
Barbican ◪ (0171-638 8891) **Clapham Picture House** (0171-498 3323) **Gate** ◪ (0171-727 4043) **MGMs: Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Tottenham Court Road** (0171-636 6148) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Leicester Square** (01426 915683) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **Screen/Baker Street** (0171-935 2772) **Screen/Green** (0171-226 3520) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332)

TO DIE FOR (15). Delicious social satire about a television weather girl's murderous lust for glory. Gus Van Sant directs Nicole Kidman and Matt Dillon.
MGM Piccadilly (0171-437 3561) **Odeon Mezzanine** ◪ (01426 915683) **Warner** ◪ (0171-437 4343)

ENTERTAINMENTS

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A New Musical
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No mats 24 & 31 Jan. Extra mat 2 Feb
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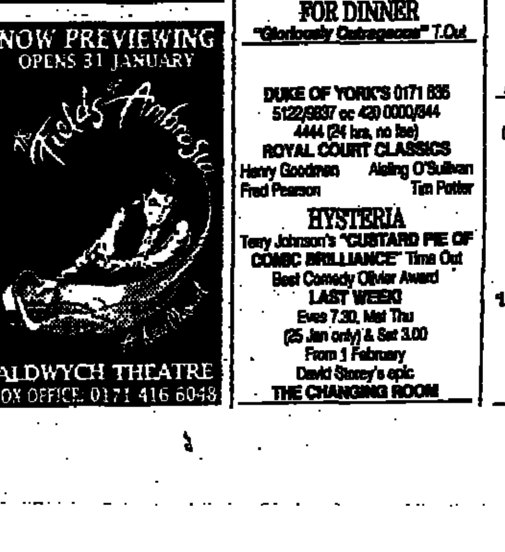

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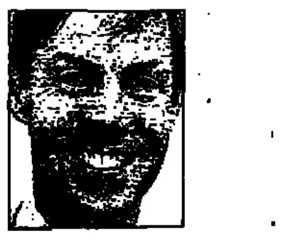


■ Christianity may preach forgiveness — but how on earth does one practise it?

Have you ever forgiven anyone? I doubt if I know what the word means.

This is not a boast or threat. By no means vengeful by nature, my instinct is to let things drop. "Least said, soonest mended"; "Let bygones be bygones"; "It's no good crying over spilt milk"; "Turn the other cheek"; "Sticks and stones . . ."; to each of these I say aye. It's just that I don't actually *forgive* people, which is different. Ever. Does anyone?

In three essays in this column in recent years, I have made three charges against Christianity. The first was that its adherents cannot really believe its central claim (that a loving, sentient God watches them and will judge them) for to believe this would blow their lives apart, and it hasn't. My second charge was that Christianity's emphasis on reward makes a mockery of its moral teaching. Virtue practised to secure a benefit is not virtue.

And my third charge was that Christian ethics funk the question of priorities, offering one banal and impossible counsel of perfection — that we should love everyone the same — but falling silent on the question of how to rank competing demands.

My fourth charge challenges, likewise, the Church's cruel but cunning habit of laying down precepts which sound inspirational but of which the content is either empty or utterly bewildering. Central is the idea of forgiveness. It is central because it is held out as an earthly start at offering others what God can offer us: redemption. Confused by redemption, Christians are told it is a sort of cosmic version of forgiveness, a virtue we can practise ourselves.

But can we? What can the word mean? Forgiveness in the Christian sense does not seem to mean pardon. We pardon all the time. You can "let off" or give another chance; you can reprieve, excuse, parole or offer amnesty to someone while saying you still do not forgive them.

Nor does it mean acquit. You can "clear", exculpate, exonerate or find "not guilty", but that does not mean forgiving: it means finding there was nothing to forgive.

Nor, of course, can it mean overlook. Life being short, we overlook most wrongs. We ignore, or choose to "forget", a great deal. But this, too, is not what people claim to mean by forgiving.

What then does the Church claim to mean? This must be guesswork on my part, but it sounds like a mental act for which the best metaphor is a wiping clean of the slate. Images of "washing" are often heard from the pulpit, suggesting that one can undergo a mental change, the consequence of which is that someone who has hurt you is restored in your affections, your estimation and your trust to the position he *would occupy if he had not* hurt you. This is the only honest meaning I can give to the concept of "washing" or "purgation". The stain is taken away. The offence is simply removed.

I have not the least idea of how one could do this, nor any recollection of ever having begun to try.

Positive feelings can overwhelm negative ones, in time. But a resentment shouldered aside remains — on the side. Resentment outweighed remains — in the scales, but outweighed. It must be not only simple common sense but part of our equipment for survival that although we give our fellows many chances, we do remember where, how and by whom we have been hurt, and learn wariness. The offender then becomes someone for whom your love and respect is stronger than your wariness. Indeed is this not our attitude to most people we love, and theirs to us — for who, loving others, has never offended them? And who, being offended by someone who loves him, has ever really forgotten it? Everything done is done. This new year I came to the disturbing conclusion that *everything* done is remembered. As a resolution I decided to make a list of all those friends whom, in a too busy life, I was neglecting; and remedy this. I wrote a list down.

Perhaps the brain's 'hurt' file is marked 'not open for edit'

Picking up the telephone to ring and invite out the first on my list, the strongest sense of reluctance overcame me. Why? I remembered a small but signal hurt she had offered me decades ago. One of those little things which (in Thornton Wilder's words) "wrapped in layers of forgiveness and understanding, sink into the heart like a stone". Was this true of the others, I wondered? I went through my list, name by name. Though all my friends had been neglected a bit, there was, in every case where I had simply made no contact, a reason why I had been (as I supposed) "too busy".

Have you ever met someone you vaguely recognised and been unable to remember who it was, yet felt disturbed by a feeling that you do not like him? The human brain, I believe, has a special file marked "hurt". Access to this is by a protected, priority route, short-cutting other information. Though we may mislay all other stored data about a face, its presence on that file is flashed straight through to the consciousness.

To use the language of computing, the "*hurt*" file, I suspect — whatever the Church may teach — is "*not open for edit*".

Robert Maxwell was a megalomaniac — but on his own terms, he meant well

Why I rather miss old bullying Bob

William Rees-Mogg

So what kind of man was Bob Maxwell? Whether or not a jury would have acquitted him last week if he, instead of his sons, had been in the dock, I have *no doubt that the* verdict actually reached was correct. Maxwell companies were Bob's companies — no one else took any vital decisions and no one else knew exactly what was happening.

I first heard the name Maxwell in the late 1950s. I was visiting a friend, Peter Baker, in prison. He had been the youngest Tory MP in the 1950 election, had set up a publishing company, employing among others Muriel Spark, and had then run out of funds. He was sentenced to seven years in jail for forging Sir Bernard Docker's signature to a bank guarantee. He was a kind and good-natured man, and a gifted one, but he drank too much and was out of his depth in his business. My visit occurred at the time of Bob Maxwell's asset-stripping, to put it politely, of Simpkin Marshall, the wholesale publishers. Peter looked around the interview room and commented: "One thing I don't understand is why I am here and Bob Maxwell is not."

I first met Maxwell myself in the late 1960s, when he was a Labour MP. To some degree, I think his socialism was sincere. Among the facets of his extraordinary character there was a genuine desire to do good in the world, though his desire to be *seen* doing good was probably even stronger. At that time he was running the Pergamon Press. Each year the profits rose spectacularly, and the share price with them. Part of this rise in profits was genuine: he had some good scientific journals; part of it was almost certainly created by artificial dealings between his private and public companies.

The Business News staff of *The Times* heard all sorts of ugly rumours, and came and told them to me. There was an accountant who claimed that there was a tent in an Oxfordshire field which contained large stocks of unsold Pergamon books, which Maxwell had transferred from the public to the private company, taking the profit along the way. We never found the tent, and the accountant was too scared to sign an affidavit. My favourite story concerned the selling of encyclopaedias in Nigeria. Bob's salesmen would go into the marketplace and offer free ice-cream from a van. In return for the ice-cream, the local population only had to sign a form, committing them to buy one of Bob's encyclopaedias for nothing down but large instalments over a long period. These contracts too were said to be taken as profits in the Pergamon accounts. We could never prove that story either. Eventually Bob made the mistake of trying to sell Pergamon to Leasco, and the accounts did indeed turn out to have more water than wine in them.

For a time Bob was quite poor. In the early 1970s I remember meeting him at Kennedy airport. As Editor of *The Times* I travelled first class, which was always slightly embarrassing if I met Roy Thomson, who, as proprietor, travelled economy. On that occasion it was Bob who was travelling economy, and it was with the most obvious embarrassment that he slunk off to the back of the aircraft. He was a man who could not bear to lose face. When he made his fatal over-bid for American Macmillan in 1988, it may have been as much because he could not bear to lose face to another bidder as because of his undoubted euphoria and growing megalomania.

The euphoria was fun. He gave splendid birthday parties at Oxford. Slipped into a drawer at home, we still have an historic photograph of a beaming Bob dancing with my wife at his 60th birthday party in 1983. There were fireworks that Handel would have approved of, and the place was littered with sinister Warsaw Pact ambassadors. I remember that the Hungarian Ambassador's car had the number-plate "HUN 1"; perhaps it still does, but it seemed more appropriate in those days of the decline and fall of the Soviet Empire.

His vanity was apparent in everything he did, even the charity work. There was some great muddle over financing the Commonwealth Games in Edinburgh in the mid 1980s. Bob chipped in with £2 million, which was, as I remember, quite difficult to get out of him. I was then vice-chairman of the BBC, which was hosting the opening by the Queen, and because my chairman was ill, I had to receive the guests. I think Bob was wearing a Maxwell tartan kilt, but my memory may be playing me false.

When the Games opened, the Queen stood on a little dais; Bob had been told to station himself five yards behind Her Majesty. The Palace officials had told him, the Games organisers had told him, I had agreed it with him, that the dais was for the Queen, not for him. We might have known. As the Australian athletes marched past to the strains of *Waltzing Matilda*, or possibly of *Australia the Fair*, Bob, twice lifesize as ever, was standing towering over the Queen on the podium, jointly receiving the Australian salute. Next to the Queen, he did look quite enormous, like Chancellor Kohl standing next to President Mitterrand.

In the 1970s and early 1980s, Maxwell made a lot of real money for himself and his shareholders by reorganising the *British Printing* Corporation and the Mirror Group. Perhaps his most important business skill was his ability to deal with the print unions. In the 1970s they had become anarchic, bullying and greedy. That happened to be a choice of attributes in which nobody could outstrip Bob — he was more anarchic, a bigger bully and greedier than anyone I have ever met. The business he had built by 1987 was a real business; had he not done a deal too far, he might still be alive, or his sons might be running a big publishing business.

He did not, I think, intend that Mirror Group pensioners be deprived of their money. He had only too much faith in his own star, and thought that everyone would benefit if he kept his overburdened company afloat. He was probably right, in his own terms. If he had been able to bluff his way through, the group might well have prospered again in the recovery of the early 1990s. He treated all assets he could lay his hands on as belonging to a common pot, but his megalomania had by then overridden his business judgment.

Of course, business should not be done like that, though it has been before and will be again. Pensioners must be properly protected, and so must shareholders. Bob Maxwell was all that his critics said: unpredictable, a little bit mad, too often blind to other people's interests. Yet the infuriating thing is that I remember the monster with a sort of disapproving affection. He had bigness, courage, imagination and a bear-like Slav charm. As someone who always took good care to stand well clear of him, and never felt the touch of his claws, I am rather shamefacedly glad that I knew him, and very pleased that Kevin and Ian were acquitted.

Several snookers to win

The Tories need new ideas, not another leadership battle, writes

Peter Riddell

The Cabinet will this week hold one of its occasional full-scale political discussions. And not before time, many Tory MPs will argue. They are in a despairing, and fractious, mood. None of the attempts at a new start — the leadership election, the party conference, the Budget — has worked. The new year has begun badly. So MPs have started thrashing around again.

The probability is that nothing, *no new policy, slogan or marketing* strategy, can save the present Government. After 17 years in office, political mortality cannot be indefinitely extended. John Major has done better than most now admit in managing the Thatcher inheritance, but that is no longer enough. As I have argued for some time, the onus of proof has now shifted against the Tories.

In 1992, Mr Major was given the benefit of the doubt as a new leader, and voters did not believe that Labour had changed enough. But that confidence was shattered by the political disaster of Black Wednesday in September 1992 and has never been rebuilt, especially since the election of Tony Blair 18 months ago produced an electorally attractive Labour leader.

Politicians never accept their fate passively, however probable they think defeat may be. They will fight, not least to save their own seats. There is a big difference between losing by a whisker and by a mile: between the narrow defeat of 1964 and the rout of 1906. The Tories can still limit the scale of any loss, or make it worse. After all, the party nearly scraped back in 1964, despite the upheavals of 1963 and all the subsequent public recriminations.

Even a façade of pre-election unity will be hard to achieve this time, and would certainly be sabotaged by another leadership contest. The revival of such rumours shows how panicky even some alleged Tory stalwarts have become. Any succession would be far from bloodless. Moreover, Michael Heseltine, the main suggested replacement, would not be credible in projecting a "new" face for the Tory party in competition with Mr Blair. Despite his proven histrionic talents, Mr Heseltine looks increasingly an elder statesman, who seems content with that role and his grand titles in backing up Mr Major.

The neutralisation of Mr Heseltine as a possible threat last summer showed how adept Mr Major is as a party manager. He is still better placed than anyone else to hold the

RIDDELL ON MONDAY

Tory party together. He may not be feared, or even respected by many MPs, but he knows how to handle them. For instance, his decision to back a White Paper on the Government's view of the European intergovernmental conference was seen as a conciliatory gesture to the sceptics, but conceded nothing of substance to them about Britain's detailed negotiating position.

Party unity will depend also on whether the Tories can counterattack Labour. Ministers have managed to land some punches over the past ten days, especially on Mr Blair's stakeholder proposal, and now on education. But this was because Mr Blair, unusually, left himself exposed by putting forward a general idea without nailing down what it meant and did not mean. This partly reflected the absence abroad at a key time of Gordon Brown, who has provided much of the intellectual framework for the "new" Labour approach. The Tories were therefore able to claim that stakeholding meant a special role for the unions and new statutory restrictions on companies, despite Mr Blair's later strong denials.

Otherwise, the Tories have been confused in their handling of Mr Blair, alternating between describing him as an extremist (because of his past, nominal membership of CND), as a smooth presenter of empty slogans, or as someone who has changed his mind and accepted Tory policies. None of these charges is convincing. They reflect the instinctive desire of politicians always to fight the last election.

The only credible way to fight Mr Blair is to recognise that he is different and is genuinely trying to change Labour. The Tories should tackle him on these terms, questioning whether his policies add up and how far the Labour Party as a whole shares his approach. Mr Major at times appears to accept this analysis, but then often slips back into a traditional assault. He has also been telling advisers that while getting the economy right — rising disposable incomes, tax cuts, low inflation — is a necessary condition for electoral success, it is not sufficient. Tory strategists are focusing on three themes: Britain as the enterprise centre of Europe versus stakeholding; Europe and the social chapter (stressed by Mr Major on Friday), and constitutional reform (likely to come to the fore next month after a big speech about it by Mr Blair).

The Cabinet will this week discuss how to take forward the economic argument and existing work on new policies, before the party's central council meeting in Harrogate in late March — *where the hosts will include the* new Tory candidate for the seat, Norman Lamont. The results of a widespread consultation exercise, "Our Nation's Future", will be published just before the meeting. Detailed manifesto commitments will not be unveiled until later, but all ministers are being asked to give indications at Harrogate of the direction of policy for the next five years, ends rather than means. Don't get too excited.

Nothing is certain in politics. Mr Major likes to recall how Jacques Chirac rose sharply in the polls before his election last year. Oppositions can also blow their chances, as happened in the last Australian election. *But there is no* miracle solution. A leadership election would be suicidal and a reshuffle of ministers irrelevant. All the Cabinet can realistically seek is a modicum of coherence and self-discipline (possibly a pious hope given the manoeuvring over the post-election future of the party), plus some fresh ideas. As one senior minister vividly remarked to me last week, the Government already needs several snookers to win. And as any bookie *will tell you, that* requires an act of faith.

THE TIMES DIARY

Gould fingered

A TOUCH of the Heseltines has afflicted Bryan Gould, the former Member for Dagenham who left our shores and the Labour Party in a huff to preside over a New Zealand university.

Just as Michael Heseltine enjoyed lavish spending on his accommodation in Downing Street when he became Deputy Prime Minister, so Mr Gould is benefiting from the luxury that goes with his academic post as Vice-Chancellor of Waikato University, 70 miles south of Auckland.

HARROGATE
PLEASE GIVE UP YOUR SEAT TO SOMEBODY WHO NEEDS IT MORE THAN YOU
PUGH

The university administration has just spent £32,850 on the swimming pool, outdoor decoration, laundry and garage of his residence. This, at a time when severe constraints have been applied to university funding, has not endeared the Vice-Chancellor to his students.

Mr Gould has been a strong critic of the New Zealand Government's tertiary education policies, but has decided, on this occasion, that attack is the best form of defence. "He strongly rejects suggestions the university acted improperly," huffs a campus source. "And, anyway, he never asked for his riverside house. He'd far prefer to live in his own."

● *Does the right hand of the Conservative Party have any idea of what the left is doing? At a standing committee last week, the Labour Party put down an amendment on Europe. David Davis, Minister for the European Union, and his cohorts dutifully voted against it — only to discover that it supported the concept of the White Paper on Europe that the Government itself brought out the following day.*

Bullish

A BRITISH company has notched up a marketing first — it has sold a custom-built mobile abattoir to a tribe of Sioux Indians in South Dakota. The Cheyenne River Sioux tribe will use the wagon to dispatch buffalo.

American Indian tribes are touchy about the animals, which they view as sacred to their culture. The machine proffered by Humas, of Bury St Edmunds, is seen to offer a humane means of killing them.

The company's chairman, Hugh Fullerton-Smith, explains that the mobile abattoir had to conform to exact designs. "The American Indians insist that a buffalo cannot be put under any stress, as this would show a disgraceful lack of respect," he says. "They have to be killed on the prairies, and our machine had to incorporate these demands. It will even allow the Sioux to participate in another ritual — taking out the animal's heart and burying it where it falls."

Glad grad

A CHICAGO woman yesterday redefined the term "lifetime learning". Myrtle Shannon donned black gown and mortarboard to attend her graduation ceremony at Roosevelt University, Illinois. Miss Shannon is 91.

Sioux: where the heart lies

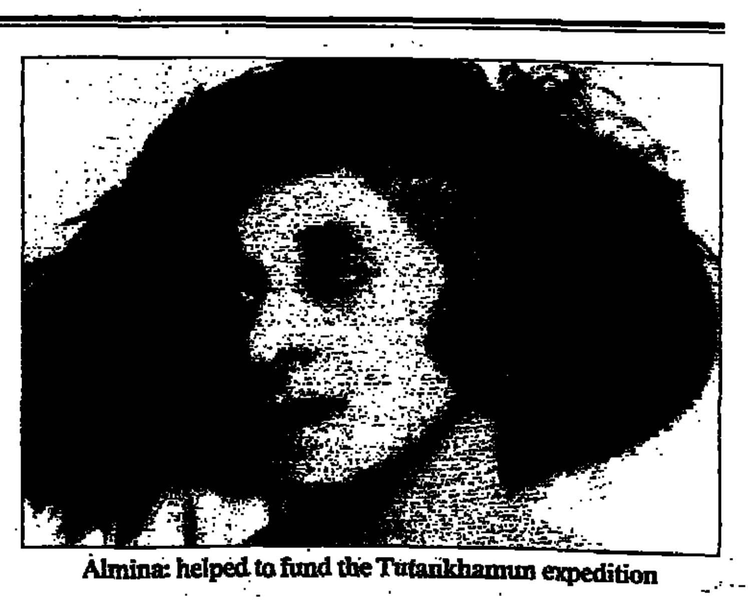
But for a walking-cane and a hearing-aid that would occasionally emit a high-pitched whirr during lectures, Miss Shannon was little different from her young, shell-suited classmates. During her gown-fitting before graduation last week, the shop assistant had to ask her to "stop jumping around like a teenager".

Miss Shannon sat at the front of lecture halls, the better to peer at the blackboard. She graduated in history, a subject in which her years arguably gave her an advantage, and was praised by the dean for "better than average" work.

Congratulations to her for helping to balance the horrid little child prodigies who infest our universities.

Early bird

THE EARL of Carnarvon, the Queen's racing manager, is helping one of his guides at the family seat, Highclere, in the writing of a biography of an extraordinary woman. The Rev David Sox is writing the life of the earl's grandmother, Almina, Countess of Carnarvon, who was a spirited and spendthrift nurse.



Almina: helped to fund the Tutankhamun expedition

The illegitimate daughter of the bachelor *bon viveur* Alfred de Rothschild, she ploughed through the family fortune, funded the 1922 Tutankhamun discovery and set up a nursing home in Portland Place where Noël Coward was treated for piles. "It's a wonderful story. She was really rather remarkable — dreamt up the National Health Service years before it existed," enthuses Carnarvon.

● *A lively weekend for Sir Ewen Fergusson, formerly our man in Paris. As chairman of the Duchess of York's bank, Coutts & Co, he has been keeping an eye on her overdraft. And as chairman of the Forte-owned Savoy Group, he has been watching Granada. Perhaps Ray Chambers, the millionaire helping to bail out Fergie, will reappear. He has bid for the Savoy.*

P·H·S

[هكذا من الأصل]

PUT CHILDREN FIRST

It is Labour's attitude that is wrong, not Harriet Harman's

Harriet Harman has gone much further than Tony Blair dared. When Mr Blair sent his son to the London Oratory his party had recently dropped its opposition to grant-maintained schools. He was advancing into new territory but his party placed no obstacles in the way. Ms Harman, by sending her son to St Olave's, Bromley, a selective grammar school, has chosen to ignore her party's policy. She has bulldozed through the barriers her colleagues have so painstakingly constructed to prevent selection. Ms Harman may have ensured that her son receives an excellent education but she has also exposed the contradictions in Labour's plans for our schools.

Labour's education policy has been fundamentally over-hauled since Tony Blair's election. As well as accepting grant-maintained schools it has distanced itself from producer interests and taken a tougher line towards the teaching unions. However, the speed and scale of change has meant some scraps have had to be thrown to the Cerberus of old socialism. With common ownership abandoned even as an aspiration and all promises of more progressive taxation carefully circumscribed, a commitment to the comprehensive system has remained as one of the last links with old Labour.

The more daring of Labour's modernisers have tried to break that link. Stephen Pollard of the Fabian Society has argued for selection, on socialist grounds, as a proven avenue of opportunity for talented working-class children — but to little apparent effect. Only a month ago Mr Blair insisted "we remain adamantly opposed to the return of selection and the 11-plus".

These are not empty words. Labour is vigorously contesting proposals from Gillian Shephard, the Education Secretary, which would allow headmasters power to select a greater proportion of their intake. Labour also proposes to allow local authorities, if they can secure the support of local parents, to scrap entrance exams to grammar schools. That Ms Harman should take advantage of a system her party holds in such scorn may invite easy accusations of hypocrisy, but it is Labour's policy that is wrong, not the behaviour of the Shadow Health Secretary. Selection is popular; a Harris poll published today suggests 54 per cent of parents favour it. More importantly, it is right, and entirely consistent with the aims of a moderate party of progress.

Sidney Webb and R.H. Tawney supported selection as the best guarantee of a socialist meritocracy. Greater selection should not mean a return to the automatic divide between grammar schools and secondary modern but rather a step towards greater diversity and specialisation in education. It is a recognition that schools need to adapt and change character if they are to prepare pupils for a competitive workplace.

Selection by stealth occurs in our system at present, with affluent parents moving house to maximise their children's access to superior schools. It would be preferable to see native talent rather than parental wealth governing educational opportunity.

The burden of Mr Blair's assault on Clause Four was that socialism was about ends, rather than means: the old Labour refrain that the party's central commitment should be to nationalisation, rather than social justice, put processes before outcomes. The same insight applies to education. To make the comprehensive principle an end in itself is to elevate the system above the needs of the children it is supposed to serve.

Harriet Harman has acted as any parent should — in the best interest of her child. Labour should realise that the best interests of our children would be served by a system that allowed schools to compete and select, openly and transparently. Excellence in education is ill-served by attachment to an outdated orthodoxy.

ITALY IN LIMBO

A polite conspiracy to postpone the day of political reckoning

When Lamberto Dini resigned as Italian Prime Minister on December 30, President Oscar Luigi Scalfaro, the wily ringmaster of politics in Rome, told the country that only one thing mattered in resolving the crisis: elections during Italy's current six-month presidency of the European Union had to be avoided at all costs. Since then, the President has arm-wrestled with all the 26 parties with seats in parliament to try to create a government of "national unity" charged with carrying out an agreed package of electoral and constitutional reforms. Over the weekend President Scalfaro gave warning that the national humiliation of an election during Italy's European presidency might after all be impossible to avoid.

Italians and their politicians should not feel embarrassed about letting down their European partners. Europe would be better served by an early election which gave Italy clearer leadership than by another six months of drift. The trouble is that an early election would be all too likely to produce the usual murky confusion.

The structure of Italian politics today is labyrinthine even by Italy's standards. At the height of the Cold War an American journalist, freshly arrived in Rome from Moscow, sought advice on his new assignment from that most urbane of Italians, Luigi Barzini. He was told to turn every rule that had applied in Moscow on its head. In Moscow, said Signor Barzini, nobody was told what was going on, but everybody knew; in Italy, he would find that the politicians never stopped talking, but nobody knew what was really happening. As the veteran Italian editor, Indro Montanelli, acidly observed this month, this advice is as pertinent today as it was then. The least reliable way to understand Italy's latest search for a government is to listen to the politicians' public pronouncements.

Nobody wants elections now because no party can be sure of a majority. The small parties are afraid of being wiped out, and the grand coalitions of both Left and Right have no leaders securely in place. On the Right, Silvio Berlusconi faces criminal prosecution and knows he could not possibly be Prime Minister, even if his coalition won a majority, while Gianfranco Fini, leader of the post-Fascist National Alliance, is not yet strong enough to make a bid to succeed him. On the Left, the Olive Tree coalition needs a replacement for its dour figurehead, Romano Prodi.

The case for an interim government of national unity is familiar: Italy needs a clear election result and a government with a solid reforming mandate; but for elections to produce a clear-cut result, it needs political stability. But even if a deal could be struck on an interim government, it would be unlikely to produce a settled and securely backed agreement on Italy's future political system. At best, it would produce a political truce which would be unlikely to last through Italy's presidency of the EU.

The technocratic Dini Government did little more than start the long process of unravelling Italy's vast deficit, its monstrous national debt and the bloated welfare state that adds to both. The political dinosaurs are now again applying the brakes, but Italy will have to kickstart its revolution back into life sometime: better sooner than later. More weak Italian coalitions are the last thing either Italy or Europe needs.

BRICKS AND STARDUST

Stately homes are becoming Britain's top movie stars

Saltram House in Devon is this year's target for the Brideshead bonus. In Saltram's case, it will be the *Sense and Sensibility* sensation. The stately home, improved, like so many others, by Robert Adam, is cast in the starring role of Norland Park in the film of *Sense and Sensibility*. The National Trust, which owns it, is preparing for a flood of tourists instead of the usual trickle when the film is launched in the spring. The Trust is co-ordinating its publicity with the film and preparing a timed ticketing system to ease the congestion through Saltram's elegant but delicate saloons.

There is common sense as well as shrewd publicity behind this. We are all cultural tourists now, as Lizzie Bennet once was. After literature, stately homes are Britain's greatest art form. And we are producing a series of films in which great houses are the real stars, lingering longer in the public memory than the flesh-and-greasepaint actors.

For those who never got round to the book, Castle Howard in North Yorkshire actually is Brideshead. Visitors to Lyme Park on the outskirts of Manchester increased ten-fold after the majestic pile had starred as Pemberley, Darcy's country seat in the BBC transfiguration of *Pride and Prejudice*. Darcy's impulsive bathing scene owed more to the romantic imagination of the director than to Jane, who could convey romance more effectively with words than with male torsos in diaphanous shirts. But demands by the numbers of new cultural visitors attracted by television have persuaded the National Trust to create a Darcy walk at Lyme Park to satisfy their television dreams.

After the success of *Middlemarch*, the tourist office at Grantham had to introduce tours for those who wanted to retrace the footsteps of Dorothea as well as visit the Georgian market town. Attendances at Dyrham Park outside Bath shot up after Anthony Hopkins and Emma Thompson had been seen as butler and housekeeper there in the film *The Remains of the Day*.

So Saltram is about to become a celebrity house as the home of the feckless Dashwoods. It is in Devon instead of Sussex. The Dashwoods are in an entanglement of love and inheritance beyond the experience of most visitors two centuries later. But culture is indivisible. The new marriage between fact and fiction, bricks and tourist buses, literature and television is a development for our age of the common man. Jane would have approved.

First watch the film. Then read the book. Then visit the stately home. The poor relations in this cultural popularisation are the houses that have not yet featured in a television series. Just across the Tamar from Saltram stands Cotehele with its magnificent old rooms and gardens. But to spread its glories further it needs a film, probably to do with pirates and the tangled loyalties of its owners. It sounds like a script for John Buchan rather than Jane Austen.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Fear for justice in Russia's regions

From Mr R. A. Goryn

Sir, The wisdom of subsidising Russia's "democracy", illustrated in her slaughter in Chechenia, Dagestan and previously in Azerbaijan and Tajikistan, cannot escape the attention of Western institutions and politicians who wish to convert Russians to Western-style democracy.

Freedom is all that the Chechens had asked for and their "terrorism" is a desperate last stand. Abandoned and inarticulate, they want to say that they would rather die than remain slaves. Russia has given ample proof that it would destroy its citizens rather than let them be free.

The Council of Europe is right to resist President Yeltsin's pressure to admit Russia to full membership (report, January 18). The Chechen war is not the first nor the last example of the workings of the Russian-style democracy defined by Lenin in his *The State and the Revolution*:

> Democracy is a *state* which recognises the subordination of the minority to the majority, ie, an organisation for the systematic use of violence by one class against the other, by one section of the population against another.

Your call (leading article, January 18) for the West to look now beyond Yeltsin is commendable but, to judge by the Russian record so far, it must be with the proviso that Russians will remain Russians. Any effort to reform them into Western-style democrats is a sheer waste of time and effort. Russia is well on the slide into what Russians call *smuty*, "troubled times", which as President Yeltsin himself reminded the Russians at the time of his storming the White House, might last as long as two hundred years.

No doubt Yeltsin's successors will continue to court and solicit Western baksheesh but there is no guarantee, however many promises they may make, that Russia's new leaders will perform any better than Yeltsin.

Yours faithfully,
R. A. GORYN,
74 Mulgrave Road,
Sutton, Surrey.
January 18.

From Lord Avebury and others

Sir, The conflicts currently surrounding Chechenia have caused untold misery. Casualties have been heavy, cities and villages have been destroyed and many thousands of people displaced from their homes. Both Russian and Chechen civilians have suffered from actions banned by the Geneva Conventions.

Independence has been demanded, but the right to secede is denied. No satisfactory ways for expressing the identity of a proud and long-suffering people have yet been found.

The Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe is the supranational body that is using its good offices and seeking solutions for a situation of potentially tragic dimensions. We wish to emphasise that the OSCE is more than just a peace mission, a secretariat and a temporary chairman. It is the widest grouping of sovereign European states, with United States participation.

Those who value European civilisation and justice for minority peoples should urge their governments to use OSCE as the chosen instrument for resolving a conflict which threatens both democracy in Russia and the stability of the Caucasus and adjoining regions. Political willpower is needed now.

Yours faithfully,
AVEBURY,
HYLTON,
REA,
House of Lords.
January 18.

Schools' choice

From Sir Rhodes Boyson, MP for Brent North (Conservative)

Sir, As an ex-headmaster of two comprehensive schools I was amazed by Simon Jenkins's article, "A selective memory" (January 10), and thought that it was certainly given an appropriate headline.

We do not have comprehensive schools in Britain. We have partial grammar schools in rich neighbourhoods, where parents buy a good education through the price of their house, and poor secondary modern schools in downtown areas with discipline problems and poor academic results. Woe betide the bright child in an uninspiring inner-city school — his prospects are probably less than they would have been in the Middle Ages.

Whilst favouring some form of selection I certainly do not want a return to 25 per cent grammar and 75 per cent secondary modern schools. I would personally favour a move to specialist schools — mathematic schools, science schools, technical schools, language schools and sports schools in which pupils follow a common core curriculum with emphasis on their specialities.

Incidentally, I went to state schools as did my children. All those who join this debate should define where they went to school and where their children go to school.

Meanwhile, I fully support the initiative of the Prime Minister and the Secretary of State for Education and Employment in increasing school selection.

I have the honour to remain your obedient servant,
RHODES BOYSON,
House of Commons.

Restoring Tory party's fortunes

From Mr Karl J. Timberlake

Sir, Surely Baroness Thatcher, in her comments about the aspirations of the "middle classes", is not advocating a "class-based" role for the Conservative Party with "exclusive horizons" as Alistair Burt, MP, implies (letter, January 16). Rather she is making a strategic political point.

Very simply, if the Conservative Government is to be re-elected it must first win back the support of its core constituency — the homeowners, shareowners, managers and small businesses of this country — or in Lady Thatcher's terms the "middle classes".

Following this the Conservative Party must seek to gain support from those who "aspire" to join the middle classes. Only then can it seek to widen its appeal. So far this Government seems to have gone out of its way to alienate its core constituency.

It seems to me that the only way that we "middle classes" can get our message across is to rejoin the Conservative Party in order to re-establish links between the hierarchy and the grass roots and thereby rescue good Tory MPs, like Alistair Burt, from electoral oblivion.

Yours faithfully,
KARL J. TIMBERLAKE,
Timberlake and Allen (estate agents),
8a Longsight Road,
Holcombe Brooke, Bury,
Greater Manchester.
January 16.

From Mr John Spencer

Sir, Full marks to Mr Alistair Burt for his onslaught on Lady Thatcher's obsession with the "middle classes". Such an expression must presuppose also the existence both of upper classes and lower classes.

Surely, if "One Nation" philosophy is right, the time has come for destratification? John Major has already announced his goal of a "classless" society.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN SPENCER,
Crofts Close,
7 Aston Road,
Haddenham, Buckinghamshire.
January 16.

From Mr J. E. Humphrey

Sir, May this somewhat ancient and ordinary citizen be allowed the same generalising latitude as that of Sir Ludovic Kennedy [letter, January 16; further letter, January 19] when speaking of the "sad bunch of Conservative politicians who forever imagine that the BBC and other media are trying to do them down".

Is there not, particularly in television, a constant concerted pattern, in speaking of the Government and its ministers, of seizing upon adverse rumours as if they are facts; of reporting matters put forward for discussion as if they have been put into effect; of garnering misfortunes and troubles to the virtual exclusion of facts and figures which prove success; and of impertinent rudeness in the questioning of those carrying heavy responsibilities?

This subscriber has been wondering for a long time now whether we deserve, and even can hope to find in future, people of ability and integrity who will be prepared to shoulder the burdens of government in the face of such treatment — a very serious question indeed.

Yours faithfully,
J. E. HUMPHREY,
9 Offington Gardens,
Worthing, West Sussex.
January 16.

Young Conservatives

From the National Chairman of the Young Conservatives

Sir, That YC membership has fallen since the 1950s (report, January 16) is hardly a surprise, given the fall in membership of youth clubs and political parties in general. This is a function of social change and in small part the massive increases in personal freedom and wealth achieved since 1979. Young people have a myriad of choices on how to spend their leisure time and consequently do not need to join youth clubs in order to mix. Nightclubs, video and sports clubs have replaced the need for the "ping pong" and dinner dances that used to be laid on by the youth clubs of the Fifties.

The modern YC movement is primarily a political rather than social organisation, which provides a strong voice for young people within our party in conjunction with our two other successful youth groups, the Conservative Students and Conservative Graduates. The YCs enjoy the patronage of senior Cabinet ministers. Several of its recent officers have been selected as parliamentary candidates and YCs perform vital work in the constituencies. We have the full support of the Prime Minister and the party chairman.

The postponed annual conference, to which your report referred, will take place over the next few months.

Yours faithfully,
JASON HOLLANDS,
National Young Conservative
Chairman,
Longdown Lodge,
97 College Road, Epsom, Surrey.
January 16.

From Mr B. H. Powell

Sir, On the matter of the alleged difficulty that the Cub Scouts have in recruitment and retention of members, I am glad to be able to reassure Mr Hollands of the YCs that there has been remarkably little change in the number of Cub Scouts over recent years.

It is my belief that few Cub Scouts "prefer . . . a pub" to the exciting programmes and challenging activities which they are offered on a weekly basis in Scouting.

Yours sincerely,
B. H. POWELL
(Assistant Scout Leader),
14th Spen Valley Scout Group,
Cleckheaton, West Yorkshire.
January 18.

Honours uneven

From Brigadier Stuart Ryder

Sir, The Prime Minister's good-intentioned, but ill-advised attempt to move towards a more democratic Honours system (letters, January 5, 10) is in danger of harming those he wished to upgrade.

Had John Major chosen to discontinue the Knight Grand Cross level, rather than the BEM, all would have been well. Almost without exception, those appointed to the highest level have been knighted previously, whereas at the lower end, many devoted workers are missing out altogether now they are forced to compete directly for the MBE with those higher up the social scale.

This unfairness has even spread to Operational awards in the Armed Forces. Following the Falklands and Gulf wars the number of MBEs awarded to officers and warrant officers was matched by the number of BEMs granted to other ranks. In stark contrast, the latest Operational list reveals that of the 27 MBEs granted, only three went to other ranks.

Not for the first time, it seems, an apparent breakthrough for democracy has crushed those it most sought to help.

Yours faithfully,
STUART RYDER,
8 Shenley Hill, Radlett, Hertfordshire.

Use of CS gas

From His Honour Judge Keith McHale

Sir, Assaults on police do not decrease; but it is not only criminals and demonstrators who respond with violence to what they feel to be police hostility. Long batons, and now CS gas (report, January 19), will promote the feeling that the police are not now for, but against us. Violence begets violence.

Yours faithfully,
KEITH McHALE,
Oak Lodge, 141 Albemarle Road,
Beckenham, Kent.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 0171-782-5046.

Car protest

From Mr W. Morton

Sir, Was that a golden calf I spied in Coventry on Wednesday (reports, January 18, 19)?

Yours faithfully,
W. MORTON,
21 Bronte Close,
Hatherley Mews,
Cheltenham, Gloucestershire.
January 19.

From Mr R. G. Maling

Sir, I do enjoy life's paradoxes. By uncovering she achieved her coverage.

Yours faithfully,
R. G. MALING,
Windfall, Butlers Cross,
Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire.
January 18.

Cook's cauldron

From Mrs Ann Bagnall

Sir, Your photograph today of commis chef David Lenaghan, cooking for Newbury bypass protesters, shows him crouched beside what your reporter calls "a 12-gallon cauldron dating from the Crimean War".

This strange-looking device is none other than the Soyer Stove, invented by the great chef Alexis Soyer, specially for the Army in the Crimea, where it did much to raise morale in the field. A modified version of the stove was in use nearly 140 years later in the Gulf.

I was sorry, though, to learn from your report that Mr Lenaghan was having trouble with the smoke. Soyer had designed the stove to avoid precisely that problem, smoke being not only bad for soldiers' eyes and lungs but also a godsend to the enemy.

Soyer makes this clear in *A Culinary Campaign*, his delightful account of his time in the Crimea. We have recently reprinted his work for the first time since 1857, and I have sent Mr Lenaghan a copy.

Yours faithfully,
ANN BAGNALL,
Southover Press,
2 Cockshut Road,
Southover,
Lewes, East Sussex.
January 13.

Ruddy duck poses wider threat

From Dr Colin Bibby and Dr Myrfyn Owen

Sir, While the first evidence of interbreeding in the wild between ruddy and white-headed ducks came from Spain as you report (January 12, 13), the threat to the existence of the white-headed duck goes much wider.

The artificially introduced ruddy duck has colonised Europe relentlessly over the past 30 years. It has now been seen in about 20 countries, including Morocco and Ukraine, and is breeding in at least six. By moving south into North Africa and east into Asia it will inevitably reach the last refuges of the white-headed duck. Control has been taking place in Spain for several years, but similar measures will be logistically impossible in Asia because of the size of the area and the type of terrain.

International efforts to conserve the white-headed duck have led to its protection from being shot, and its wetland habitat is also safe. The ruddy duck is now the main threat. Allowing it to spread uncontrolled will inevitably lead to the white-headed duck's extinction.

Ruddy ducks may pose a threat to other species. In Iceland they have been breeding alongside Slavonian grebes whose breeding success, Iceland's conservationists fear, may be at risk from the ruddy ducks' aggressive nature. In the UK, Slavonian grebes are rare breeding birds, confined to parts of Scotland as yet uncolonised by ruddy ducks, but their future here could also be in doubt.

Action against the ruddy duck must take place across Europe and in North Africa if it is to be truly effective. The UK has taken the lead and may have found a solution. The proposed control trials in the West Midlands and Anglesey, if they show that such a solution is possible, may be the last chance to save a unique species from being lost forever.

Yours faithfully,
COLIN BIBBY (Director of research),
BirdLife International,
MYRFYN OWEN (Director),
Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust,
Slimbridge, Gloucestershire.
January 16.

Olive oil galore

From Miss Carolina Matthews

Sir, Living in the Cyclades where, on an annual visit to England, I have left my household barrel of oil brimming, I am astonished by your doleful outlook (report and leading article, January 15) on a subject so happy for that part of the Mediterranean this year.

On the island where I live even building works stopped this autumn as villages were daily abandoned and the valleys and hillsides enlivened for the great business of picking the first heavy crop in three years. The yield from my own grove leapt from last year's record low of 15 kilos of oil to a new record of 187 kilos.

It is Spain that has had no break in the killer drought that has been threatening the survival of the olive in recent years. In October 1994 Greece received deluges which brought a state of emergency to Athens and even reached the notoriously dry Cyclades. I was nearly washed away by a river that had not flowed for 20 years. And that is the direction for the olive-oil scouts to be looking now.

Yours faithfully,
CAROLINA MATTHEWS,
The Roost,
Uplyme, Lyme Regis, Dorset.

On second thoughts?

From Mr Christopher Rouse

Sir, You refer (leading article, January 19) to Mr Norman Lamont's "record as a distinguished Chancellor of the Exchequer". Distinguished?

Depending upon your choice of statistics, the ERM fiasco, over which Mr Lamont presided, cost this country between £5 billion and £10 billion.

The ermine you mention may not yet be appropriate, but an intervening period of sackcloth would be welcome.

Yours faithfully,
CHRISTOPHER ROUSE,
Flat One, 9 Colerherne Road, SW10.

Fears of Hell

From Mr Charles Howe

Sir, What relief to learn that Hell is "nothingness" (report, January 11; letters, January 13, 20). My fear of Hell was that tinnitus may continue in the afterlife.

Yours faithfully,
C. HOWE,
88 Earle Road, Bramhall,
Stockport, Greater Manchester.

Winning word

From Mr Tim Guilding

Sir, I found your report (January 13) concerning the chewing of *Catha edulis foisk* most illuminating. However, the agricultural, economic or physiological effects of "qat" are as nothing compared to my delight at finding yet another word that can be made with a "q" when having no "u" on my Scrabble shelf.

Yours faithfully,
TIM GUILDING,
39 Old Odiham Road,
Alton, Hampshire.

COURT CIRCULAR

SANDRINGHAM
January 21: Divine Service was held in St Mary's Church, Hillington, this morning.

The Bishop of Sodor and Man preached the Sermon.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
January 20: The Princess Royal visited Riding for the Disabled, Newcastle Riding School, Dublin. Her Royal Highness later visited Victim Support, Dublin.

The Princess Royal, Patron, Scottish Rugby Union, this afternoon attended a Luncheon at Berkeley Court Hotel, Dublin, and afterwards attended the Rugby Match between Scotland and Ireland at Lansdowne Road.

Her Royal Highness later arrived at Royal Air Force Lyneham from the Republic of Ireland.

The Hon Mrs Loulandis was in attendance.

Birthdays today

Miss Mary Hayley Bell, playwright, 85; *Mr Nigel Benn, boxer*, 32; Admiral Sir Lindsay Bryson, 71; Lord Cottesloe, 69; Sir John Cotton, diplomat, 87; Sir Charles Davis, former Counsel to the Speaker, 87; Mr George Foreman, boxer, 48; Judge Ann Goddard, QC, 60; Miss Margaret Hall, head of design, British Museum, 60; Professor Cyril Hogarth, physicist, 72; Lord Hughes, 85; Mr John Hurt, actor, 56; Mr John Last, arts patron, 56; Baroness Lockwood, 72; Miss Elizabeth Lynne, MP, 48; Sir Alfred Ramsey, former manager, England's World Cup football team, 76; *Mrs Claire Rayner*, writer and broadcaster, 65; Mrs Gillian Shephard, Secretary of State for Education and Employment, 56; Sir Michael Spicer, MP, 53; *Sir Hilary Talbot, former* High Court judge, 84; Lord Wardington, 72; Sir Graham Wilkins, former chairman, Thorn EMI, 72.

Lord Home of the Hirsel

A service of thanksgiving for the life of Lord Home of the Hirsel, the *former Prime Minister*, will be held in Westminster Abbey today.

Christopher Bedingfield

Evening Prayer will be sung in the Chapel of Gray's Inn on Tuesday, January 23, at 5pm in memory of Christopher Bedingfield, TD, QC. Tickets are not required.

Today's royal engagements

The Princess Royal opens the TNT Express House extension at Atherstone, Warwickshire, at 3; and, as President of the British Olympic Association, attends the *Midlands division banquet for the* British Olympic appeal at The Lawn, Lincoln, at 7.15.

Today's events

The Queen's Life Guard mounts, Horse Guards, 11; The Queen's Guard, Buckingham Palace, 11.30.

Memorial services

Professor Sir Rudolf Peierls
A memorial meeting for Professor Sir Rudolf Peierls, FRS, Wykeham Professor of Physics, was held on *Saturday at the Sheldonian Theatre*, Oxford. Mr Harvey McGregor, QC, Warden of New College, presided. Mrs J. Hookway, daughter, Sir Sam Edwards, *Dr R.S. Pease and Profes*sor Sir Roger Elliott, Fellow of New College, also spoke.

Mr Eadward J.B. Langhorne
A service of thanksgiving for the *life and work of Mr Eadward J.B.* Langhorne, Headmaster of Dean Close Junior School 1949-1972, was held on Saturday in Dean Close Chapel, Cheltenham. The Chaplain officiated and the Headmaster of the Junior School led the prayers. Professor Richard Langhorne, son, gave a reading. Mr M.A. Gover gave an address.

Nature notes

THE first black-headed gulls are acquiring the dark hoods of their summer plumage. Among them in the flocks there are often a few common gulls, which are slightly *larger, gentler-looking birds, with* dark bills and green legs. The black-headed gulls have crimson beaks and legs, and red-edged eyelids.

On rocky streams, dippers have started to look for nesting sites behind waterfalls and under bridges. They will build a domed nest of moss and leaves, with an overhanging roof to hide the entrance, and some pairs will have eggs by February. They speed up and down the streams, stopping to bob and curtsy on stones in the water.

Skylarks are singing more regularly over the fields, hovering as they face into the wind. Treecreepers have begun their whispering song on tree-trunks, and nuthatches their loud spring whistles high in the branches.

The nuthatch

Snowdrops are in flower, especially in the West of England: the white and green bells nod on the stalks. They are pollinated by the first bees to venture out of hibernation.

In some oak and hornbeam woods, the bright green leaves of dog's mercury are spreading a carpet over the ground.

DJM

The Times man who became a hero to Bulgarians

Bourchier of the Balkans honoured

FROM JAMES PETTIFER
RILA, BULGARIA

THE bones of few foreign correspondents of *The Times* can have a more fitting resting place than those of James Bourchier, the great 19th-century Balkans Correspondent.

He was buried in 1921 in the Rila mountain valley, above Bulgaria's most famous monastery, a great hexagon of wood and stone and richly painted frescoes lost 4,000ft up in deep beech forest.

A Bulgarian and British party last week trudged like medieval pilgrims up the icy slopes to lay wreaths on Bourchier's granite slab. They recalled how in many ways he defined the Balkans for the British public between 1882 and 1915.

His time was that of the bloody *struggle against the Ottoman yoke* and for Bulgarian independence. The vicious Balkan Wars of 1911-12 which he covered are, like Vukovar or Sarajevo, closer to us than the *time between.*

The Anglo-Irish Bourchier was bored with teaching classics at Eton and, like many of the best journalists, came to the trade by accident. He first came to Rila when King Ferdinand of Bulgaria had rooms here, and fell in love with a severe, dramatic landscape.

In his work for *The Times*, there were 33 years of hectic travel, often on a mule, in Albania, or on horseback elsewhere, following the turmoil as emerging nations rid themselves of the venal empire of Sultan Adbul Hamid.

Bourchier wrote brilliantly of the Cretan struggle to be free. He respected the development of Montenegro, Serbia, and Albania, but had little interest in the Croats and the Roman Catholic Slavs to the north, or in Turkey itself. Bulgaria was his first love.

He was a private man, nervous, haunted by growing deafness, *probably homosexual, but he be*came the close confidant of kings and ambassadors in their labyrinthine intrigues.

Bourchier is one of the few *Britons every Bulgarian has heard* of. There is a Bourchier Street in most towns. Most important of all, he was never afraid of emotional controversy, then as now, inevitable in the Balkans. He was a ruthless and uncompromising enemy of governments and their agents who tried to manipulate journalists.

The great man brought many people together last week. Roger Short, the British Ambassador, read a message of respect. A huge young priest watched spellbound. I read a tribute from *The Times* Foreign Desk.

A couple in peasant dress from the Internal Macedonian Revolutionary Organisation, descendants of the fierce revolutionaries who *fought for a greater Bulgaria, laid* a wreath. Bourchier understood their grandparents, with their daggers and pistols, better than anybody. Stefan Tafrov, the *Bulgarian Ambassador in London*, sent his greetings.

The restoration of the grave, paid for by *The Times* and the Reuters Foundation, and its *rededication in the tranquil woods* came like a vow of reconciliation after the blood-soaked past. Silence was broken by the deep voices of the monks, the blessing of bread *and salt, then warmth and* generosity in the monastery, raki in our chilled throats.

Abbot Ioan told us how the monks survived communism. Balkan people are more indestructible than most. They are good at sorting out who their friends are and who are not, and they respect those who stay with them through thick and thin. Bourchier was never disloyal and in Bulgaria they will always remember him for it.

JAMES PETTIFER

Abbot Ioan, left, of the Rila Monastery, blessing James Bourchier's restored grave; Roger Short, Ambassador to Bulgaria, right, also spoke about *The Times* Balkans Correspondent, who died in 1921, seen below in Bulgarian peasant dress

Forthcoming marriages

**Mr J.P. Barker
and Miss V.B. Strangwayes-Booth**
The engagement is announced between Justin, son of Mr M.J. Barker, of London, SW10, and of Mrs S. Aumonier, of Warnham, West Sussex, and Venetia Beatrice, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Dermot Strangwayes-Booth, of Warfield, Berkshire.

**Mr J.C.T. Castle
and Miss P.J. Collins**
The engagement is announced between Jeremy, younger son of Major and Mrs J.A. Castle, of East Woodhay, Newbury, and Penelope, youngest daughter of the late Mr Clive Collins and of Mrs Patricia Collins, of Neacroft, Hampshire.

**Mr P.D. Moore
and Miss C.M. Reeby**
The engagement is announced between Paul, eldest son of Mrs Susan Moore and the late David Moore, of Plymouth, Devon, and Catriona, younger daughter of Mr *and Mrs J.F. Reeby, of Nottington,* Weymouth, Dorset.

**Mr J.A.L. Cooper
and Miss C.H. Bateson**
The engagement is announced between John, eldest son of Mr *and Mrs* J.L. Cooper, of Barnt Green, Worcestershire, and Claire, daughter of Mr J. Bateson, of Buxhall, Suffolk, and Mrs S. Thain, of Baldersby, North Yorkshire, *and stepdaughter* of Bernard Thain and Kate Walters.

**Mr O.H. Nieboer
and Miss R.J. Seal**
The engagement is announced between Oscar, *eldest son of Mr* Jeremy Nieboer, of London, and Mrs Sarah Nieboer, also of London, and Rosanne, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Michael Seal, *of Great* Budworth, Cheshire.

**Mr T.P.G. Norman
and Miss L.E. Manson**
The engagement is announced between Timothy, *younger son* of Mr and Mrs Paul Norman, of Southridge, Streatley, Berkshire, and Lucy, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Alastair Manson, of Fulham, London and Robertsbridge, East Sussex.

Marriages

**The Master of Elibank
and Miss A.S.W. Carrington**
The marriage took place on Saturday at the Church of Our Most *Holy Redeemer and St Thomas* More, Chelsea, of the Hon Robert Erskine-Murray, elder son of Lord and Lady Elibank, of Berkshire, to Miss Antonia Carrington, younger *daughter of Mr and Mrs Roger* Carrington, of Hampshire. Father Patrick Nolan officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by William Rowe, George Renwick, Laura Naudi and Miss Henrietta Hollingshead. The Hon Timothy Erskine-Murray, brother of the bridegroom, was best man.

A reception was held at the House of Lords. The honeymoon will be spent in the West Indies.

**Mr G.G. Weston
and Dr K.M. Acland**
*The marriage took place on Sat*urday in Eton College Chapel of Mr George Weston, second son of Mr and Mrs Garry Weston, of Pembridge Place, London, to Dr Katharine Acland, only daughter of Sir Antony Acland, of the Provost's Lodge, Eton, and of the late Lady Acland and step-daughter of Lady (Jennifer) Acland. The Rev Dr H.R. Smythe and the Rev J.S. Witheridge officiated.

The bride was attended by Eloise Acland, Alice Hobhouse, Olivia Acland, Thomas Acland, William Weston, Hamish Khayat and Miss Tatjana May. Mr Charles Power was best man.

**Mr R. Durden-Smith
and Miss J. How**
The marriage took place quietly in Chelsea, on January 20, between *Mr Richard Durden-Smith* and Miss Jane How.

**Second Lieutenant C.M.R. Elmhirst
and Miss J.J. Lewis**
The marriage took place on January 20, in the Guards Chapel, Wellington Barracks, between Second Lieutenant Marcus Elmhirst, Scots Guards, son of Mr and Mrs Paul Elmhirst, of Stillingfleet, York, and Miss Jessamy Lewis, daughter of Mr and Mrs Trevor Lewis, of Saundersfoot, Pembrokeshire. The Rev P. Rutherford, CF, officiated.

The bride was attended by Miss Lucy Hillman, Miss Amanda Lewis, Ruth Birt-Llewellin and by Benjamin Bradnam and Barnaby Elmhirst. Second Lieutenant Robin Lindsay, Black Watch, was best man.

The reception was held at the Cavalry and Guards Club.

**Mr D.I. Yelland
and Miss T.D. Farrell**
The marriage took place on Friday, January 19, in New York, between David, son of Mr and Mrs J.M. Yelland, of Bridlington, East Yorkshire, and Tania, daughter of Mr and Mrs L.H. Farrell, of St George's Hill, Surrey.

Appointments in the Forces

Royal Navy and Royal Marines

Rear Admiral J.A. Trewby to be Director General Naval Bases and Supply (Additional) from May and Director General Naval Bases and Supply/Chief Executive (Designate) (tbd) from October.

CAPTAIN: I R Henderson to NBC Portsmouth, 26.03.96.

COMMANDER: P D Crabtree NBC Clyde, March 5; R F Goodfellow — Bath, March 1; R I Hughes — MoD *London, April 4; A D H Mathews* — Staff 2SL/CNH, April 12; R H Mitchell — PJHQ Northwood, April 12.

SURGEON COMMANDER: T R *Douglas-Riley to Staff of Cincfleet*, 30.04.96.

LOCAL LIEUTENANT COLONEL: D A Hopley to JSDC Greenwich, 18.05.96.

MAJOR: J C V Spencer to HQRM, 05.02.96.

CHAPLAIN: S J Brown to Seahawk, 29.03.96; R J Clancy to Caledonia, 01.04.96; R C Cutler to Caledonia, 29.05.96; J Green to Portsmouth, 11.03.96.

Retirements

CAPTAIN: T M Masterman, 04.04.96; K J Tullett, 05.04.96.

SURGEON CAPTAIN: J D Buchanan, 02.04.96; B E Lambert, 06.04.96

LIEUTENANT COLONEL: A J W *Higginson*, 06.04.96.

COMMANDER: K J M Ayres, April 1; L J Bamber, April 1; W D Beastall, 06.04.96; R N Bird, April 4; *J R Cameron, April 4; G M Comrie*, April 7; J G Connolly, April 7; S J Fryer, April 2; M Goodman, April 2; G A Harris, April 6; C Joly, April 6; G D McEwan, April 5; P F Miles, April 3; R C Richardson, April 6; L D Rigby, April 5; B Wallis, April 6.

SURGEON COMMANDER (D): J F Hart, 01.04.96; L C Langan, 27.04.96.

The Army

BRIGADIER: A D Ball to MoD, Jan 22; L D Curran to Ord Bd, Jan 22; G L Kerr to HQ Afcent (Staff), Jan 25.

COLONEL: J E B Smedley to Staff Coll, Jan 22; K E Ferguson to 1 (UK) Armd Div HQ & Sig Regt, Jan 22.

LIEUTENANT COLONEL: I C Dale, Reme, to be CO 6 Bn Reme, 22.1.96; R A *Ingleby-Mackenzie, SG*, to be CO The London Regt, 24.1.96; M P Manson, RA, to HQ Land, 24.1.96; F G Moss, Staffords, to RMCS, *22.1.96; D A Wynne Davies, LI, to 3* (UK) Div 22.1.96.

Retirements

BRIGADIER: A J Stevens, late RA, 24.1.96.

COLONEL: A G P Meagher, late Reme, 29.1.96.

Royal Air Force

GROUP CAPTAIN: J A King to HQ STC, 26.1.96.

WING COMMANDER: B S Page to HQ LC Wyton, 22.1.96; N A Sheppard to No 30 MU Sealand, 22.1.96; P B Akehurst to HQ STC, 22.1.96; D C Bernard to HQ AWC, 8.1.96; P A Blackford to Shape Int Staff, 8.1.96; P M Kelly to HQ QCV, *8.1.96; A F Stuart to HQ Afsouth*, 8.1.96; S N Skinner to HQ 18 GP, 9.1.96.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Francis Bacon, Viscount St Albans, Lord Chancellor 1618-21, London, 1561; Joseph Hume, social *reformer*, Montrose, 1777; George Gordon Byron, 6th Baron Byron, poet, London, 1788; August Strindberg, dramatist, Stockholm, 1849; D.W. Griffith, film director, Floydsfork, Kentucky, 1875.

DEATHS: Andrea del Sarto, painter, Florence, 1531; William Paterson, financier and founder of the Bank of England, London, 1719; *Charles Kean*, actor-manager, London, 1868; Carlo Pellegrini, the cartoonist (Ape), London, 1889; David Hughes, pioneer of telephony, London, 1900; Queen Victoria, reigned 1837-1901, Osborne House, Isle of Wight, 1901; Walter Sickert, painter, Bath, 1942; Lyndon B. Johnson, 36th American President 1963-69, San Antonio, Texas, 1973.

"Bloody Sunday" in St Petersburg, when troops fired on workers, 1905.

The Allied landings began in Anzio, Italy, 1944.

The United Kingdom, the Irish *Republic and Denmark joined the* Common Market, 1972.

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Then Jesus said to them: 'Go to every part of the world, and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation'.
Mark 16 : 15 (REB)

BIRTHS

FOWLER - on 18th January 1996 to Sarah (née Goodwin) and Ken a wonderful son, William Oliver, a brother for Jamie and Tom.

GOUGH - On January 10th 1996, in Chicago, to Renee and Peter, a daughter, Sophie Lee.

NICHOLSON - On January 19th to Amelia (née Fisher) *and Christopher, a daughter* Helen Selina. A sister for Hugh and Philip.

PIDSLEY - On January 11th to Deborah and Ralph, a son, Christopher William, a brother *for Emma*

SAMUEL - *On January 19th* at University College Hospital, London, to Alison (Née Ingham) and Christopher, a son, Oliver John Loraine, a brother for Hattie and Alexandra.

SWAN - *On January 18th*, to Charlotte and Jeremy, a daughter, Alexandra Elizabeth.

THACKRAY - On January 10th 1996, to Julia and Neil, a beautiful daughter, *Rebecca Paige Mathieson*, a sister for Sophie.

DEATHS

BOBBETT - Walter Frank, peacefully on January 18th 1996 aged 94 years, loved father of Doreen Townley. Funeral Service at Cambridge City Crematorium, West Chapel, on Thursday 25th January at 2.30 pm. No *flowers* please, donations if desired for Ward F5 Trust Fund may be sent to H. Peasgood & Son, Shire Hill, Thaxted Road, Saffron Walden, Essex CB11 3AQ.

BURN - David Richard, passed away on January 18th aged 38 years. The funeral service will be held at Southampton Crematorium, East Chapel, on Monday January 29th at 2 pm. Family flowers only please, but if desired donations made payable to The Wessex Cancer Trust may be sent to Co-operative Funeral Services, 15 Manor Farm Road, Bitterne Park, Southampton. tel: (01703) 671990.

CROSSMAN - On Thursday 18th January in Oxford, *Josephine* Siddle (née Coltart), widow of Captain John Danvers Crossman CBE, Royal Navy, mother of David and Jonathan, grandmother of Katharine, Edward, Nicola and the late Robert. *Funeral at Oxford* Crematorium on Wednesday 24th January at 11.30 am. Private interment at Steeple Aston at a later date.

FRANKHAM - On 17th January 1996 peacefully at Salisbury District Hospital *The Very Revd.* Harold Edward Frankham, aged 84 years, Provost Emeritus of Southwark Cathedral. Family funeral service followed by a Thanksgiving in Salisbury Cathedral at 2.45 pm on *Friday* 26th January 1996. No flowers. Donations to Harold Frankham Memorial Fund c/o I.N. Newman Ltd., Funeral Directors, Griffin House, 56 Winchester Street, Salisbury, Wiltshire, SP1 1HL. tel: (01722) 413136.

GORDON - On January 19th Alannah Elaine, wife of the late Col. D.G.H. de la Fargue, much loved mother of Judith, Philip and Stephen, peacefully in her 90th year. Funeral private. Memorial Service to be announced later.

HALL - Peacefully on January 17th. His Honour George Hall of Jesmond, Newcastle upon Tyne, beloved husband of Pat and father of John, Ann, Stephen, Peter and Michael and much loved grandfather of eight grandchildren. Service at Newcastle Crematorium on Friday January 26th at 11am. No flowers please.

HARVEY - Sarah Cordelia (née Story), wife of John *Harvey*, peacefully in the Victoria Hospital, Frome on 18th January 1996. Funeral at Haycombe Crematorium, Whiteway, Bath, Friday 26th January at 12.20 pm. No flowers by request. Donations may be sent to Bath & West Community NHS Trust or The Salvation Army, c/o W. Adlam & Sons, 68-70 Locks Hill, Frome BA11 1NH. Tel: 01373-452100.

HATHORN - John, peacefully on 18th January. Beloved husband of Fluffy. Private funeral in Rougemont.

HEBER-PERCY - Olivia Mary (Livy) peacefully on 19th January. Widow of David, dearly loved mother and grandmother. Funeral Christ Church Kilndown 12.00 noon Friday 26th January. Flowers c/o E.R. Hickmott 41 Grovehill Road, Tunbridge Wells.

HEWLINGS - Norman James *Patrick, of Adderbury, near* Banbury. On Friday, 19th January, aged 85 years. Funeral Service on Friday, 26th January, 3.00.pm, at St Mary's Church, Adderbury. Family flowers only please, *but, if desired, donations for* the Parkinsons Disease Society and R.N.L.I. c/o: J & M Humphris, 32 Albert Street, Banbury, OX16 8DG.

JENNINGS - On Wednesday January 17th 1996, in the devoted care of the Hope Nursing Home, Cambridge, Bridget Mary Jennings aged 84 years. Very dearly loved sister of Peggy. The funeral will take place at 2 pm on Monday January 29th in the West Chapel at Cambridge City Crematorium. Family flowers only please. Donations, if desired, may be sent to The Cambridge Cancer Research Fund, 181A Huntingdon Road, Cambridge, CB3 0DL.

MACKENZIE HILL - Annie, died peacefully after a long illness on January 17th. Funeral at Holy Trinity Brompton 3.30 pm Thursday January 25th. Annie's wish was that everything at her *funeral* should be white, bright and beautiful. Enquiries to Kenyon's. Tel: 0171 937 0757

MACKINTOSH - Ian Robert Macdonald, lovingly known as 'Spike', passed away peacefully after a good lunch on 18th January 1996, having had a riotously full life giving pleasure and love and laughter to his wife Diana and his 3 sons Cameron, Robert and Nicky, his family, friends and any strangers lucky enough to meet him.

ROBERTSON - On January 17th, Evelyn, daughter of the late Gilbert and May Gardner of Crawley, and sister of the late Geoffrey Gardner. *Much* loved aunt and great-aunt.

SYMON - Robert Owen Peacefully on January 15th, aged 88 years at Santa Rosa, California, greatly missed by beloved wife Anne, daughters Mairi Store, and Elizabeth Symon and grandchildren Christopher and Diana Store.

TOOLEY - Olive Mary aged 84 years died on 13th January after one day in hospital, late of University College, London. She was much loved by family and friends. Funeral at the Chilterns *Crematorium*, Amersham, on Tuesday 30th January at 12 noon. No flowers please. Donations to Action for M.E., PO Box 1302, Wells, Somerset or charity of choice.

VYNER - Henry, on 19th January died peacefully at home after a short illness, very dearly loved husband of Claire and father of Harriet and Violet. Family funeral in Somerset. Memorial Service will be announced later.

WEBSTER - Irene on January 15th 1996, peacefully at home. Funeral Service at Worthing Crematorium on *Monday* 29th January at 9.40 am. All enquiries to H.D. Tribe Ltd., 21 West Street, Storrington, tel: (01903) 742585.

WILLCOX - John Michael, M.C., M.D., on 14th January peacefully aged 80 years. A *much loved husband to* Hilary, father to Robert and Frances, brother to Roger. Soldier and Doctor. Funeral Service at Holy Trinity Church, Stratford-upon-Avon, on Wednesday 24th *January at 2.30 pm. Family* flowers only. Donations, if so desired, to the Shakespeare Hospice Appeal c/o A.E. Bennett & Sons, 34 Sheep Street, Stratford-upon-Avon, CV37 6EE.

WOLFE - *On January 19th*, William Jackson after a short illness. Dear husband of Dorothy. Funeral Service at The Isle of Wight Crematorium, on Wednesday January 24th at 1 pm. *No flowers please.*

FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS

GLENDEVON - John Adrian Hope The Rt. Hon. Lord Glendevon P.C. Funeral Service at St Andrews Church of Scotland, The Grange, *Guernsey*, on Monday 22nd January at 3.30 pm.

IN *MEMORIAM* — PRIVATE

PALMER - Christopher Francis. A dear son, died 22nd January 1995. *Remembered always. M.*

SILBERSTON - Louis F.Z.S. Loving memories of darling Father. Gertrude Shilling.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

ROCHE - Monsignor John J. Roche C.B.E. S.C.A. The Pallottine Fathers and the *family of the late Monsignor* Roche would like to express their appreciation to all who were so kind to John during his final illness. Our thanks especially to Dr. John Slater, the staff of St John's Hospital, Chelmsford, the staff of the Franciscan Convent and Nursing Home and above all the Sisters who cared for him with such consideration, affection and devotion. The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass will be offered for the intentions of all.

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NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 48(2) of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a meeting of the creditors of the above named company will be held at 10.30 am on 8 February 1996 at the offices of Ernst & Young, Apex Plaza, Reading, Berks. RG1 1YE for the purposes provided for in Sections 48 and 49 of the said Act.

Creditors whose claims are wholly secured are not entitled to attend or be represented at the meeting.

Proxy forms should be completed and returned to us by the date of the meeting. In order to be entitled to vote at the meeting, you must give us, no later than 12 noon on 7 February 1996, details in writing of your claim.
Dated 16 day of January 1996.
A Lovett, T N Birch
& N J Hamilton
Joint Administrative Receivers.

MOLTOCONSIDO ONE B.V.
Registered number: Registered in the Netherlands. Nature of business: Property investment Company. Trade classification: 38. Date of appointment of administrative receivers: 8th January 1996. Name of person appointing the administrative receivers: Fennoscandia Ltd. Joint Administrative Receivers: N Fluman & A W Brierley (office holder nos: 6470 & 8641) of Arthur Andersen, PO Box 55, 1 Surrey Street, London, WC2R 2NT.

SHADEWARM LIMITED
NOTICE IS GIVEN pursuant to the Companies Act 1985, section 175 that:
1 The above named company ("the Company") has approved a payment out of capital for the purpose of acquiring its own shares by purchase.
2 the amount of the permissible capital payment for the shares in question is £74,750.
3 the date for the resolution for payment out of capital is 16th JANUARY 1996.
4 a statutory declaration and auditor's report required by section 173 of the Companies Act 1985 are available for inspection at the Company's registered office, and
5 any creditor of the Company may at any time within the five weeks immediately following the date of the resolution for the payment out of capital apply to the Court under section 176 of the Companies Act 1985 for an order prohibiting the payment.
Dated 17th JANUARY 1996
E S Shaw, Company Secretary.

The Insolvency Act 1986
RUTHERFORD & MORGAN LTD
(In Liquidation)
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Maurice Raymond Dorrington, FIPA of Pappleton & Appleby, 4 Charterhouse Square, London, EC1M 6EN was appointed Liquidator of the said Company by the members and creditors on 16th January 1996.
MR Dorrington, Liquidator.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN
WE, GERALDINE ELLEN SHARER of 16 Atholl House, Lanark Road, Maida Vale, London W.9. and KENNETH GREGORY MURPHY of 289 Neasden Lane, London N.W.10. hereby give you notice that we intend to apply to the said Licensing Justices at the Transfer Sessions to be held at The Court House, Church End, 448 High Road, Willesden, London N.W.10. on the 6th day of February 1996 for a special hours certificate under Section 77 of the Licensing Act 1964 for the licensed premises situate at 289/293 Neasden Lane, London N.W.10. and known as the GALWAY HOOKER.
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GERRY MULLIGAN

Gerry Mulligan, jazz composer and baritone saxophonist, died in Connecticut on January 20 aged 68. He was born in New York on April 6, 1927.

A COOL experimentalist swaying behind his saxophone, Gerry Mulligan was the man who almost single-handedly chilled "hot jazz". Taking as his model Serge Chaloff, the finest baritone saxophonist of his day, Mulligan blunted the turbulent, slightly pugnacious, delivery with the elegance of players, such as Johnny Hodges and Lester Young, to produce a lean, agile *legato* sound that came to define a "cool" school of jazz.

His was a clever and complicated type of music, played from the head as much as the heart, relying on intellect rather than emotion. Mulligan, then a lean-limbed, lithe young man, dressed in the West Coast uniform of crew-cut, T-shirt, chinos and loafers, became an icon of Fifties jazz, his image carved out in sharp counter-definition to what has been described as a "long- haired, goatee-and-beret" style. As one of only a handful of musicians who have ever mastered the baritone saxophone, Mulligan's accomplishment came to represent an as yet unmatched high point in the history of the instrument.

Mulligan's West Coast jazz quartet formed in 1952 became legendary for its daring improvisations, made without the safety net of predictable backing chords from either a piano or guitar. Its performances are described in Thomas Pynchon's short story *Entropy* as the crux of Post-modernism, and Mulligan's most popular tunes — *My Funny Valentine*, *Carioca* and *Line for Lyons* included — were all made with this group.

Though some criticised the cold cleverness of Mulligan's new "cool school", declaring that its almost scientific approach to music, and the restrained bleating of its sound, stripped jazz of a traditional joyousness, Mulligan appealed to the spirit of his age. Where most great jazz artists have matured only in their fifties, Mulligan at the age of 36 had already become the kernel of a living legend. He showed, wrote Kingsley Amis in 1958, that modern jazz "need sound neither like St Vitus' dance made audible nor like a Diaghilev ballet suite spread out thin".

Growing up in Philadelphia, the youngest in a family of four, Gerald Joseph Mulligan was left very much to his own devices by his father, an engineer. By the age of seven he was already tinkering around with a piano and ocarina. "Some kids want to drive a fire-engine, I wanted to play music," he later said.

He began his career by selling arrangements to the Johnny Morrington Radio Band before going on to specialise as a writer. Despite his prowess as a player, he was always to remain committed to composing and throughout his career he would juggle the two, though he could never write on tour. "It's like being a kind of schizo," he said. "A man who writes music is totally introverted. A man who plays music is hopelessly extrovert. You can't be the two together."

Mulligan's first recorded works were arrangements for Gene Krupa who was focusing on African percussion, and for Claude Thornhill who used French horns and tuba. However, it was his time as a writer and saxophonist for Miles Davis's band — an innovatory nonet whose urbane sound with its subtle scoring and unhurried solos reacted against the frenetic excesses of bebop — that was to shape his career. Together they recorded the album *Birth of the Cool*, and it was this "cool" which Mulligan was to develop, sowing the seeds of legend with his 1950s pianoless quartet.

However, ever since the teenage Mulligan had seen the Duke Ellington ensemble, he had nursed an ambition to lead his own big orchestra. He achieved this briefly in the 1960s when he headed his own 12-piece band, its music a direct outgrowth of that of the quartet. Mulligan also changed his image, his crew-cut flopping into the coiffeur of an Edwardian poet and his once gaunt jawline losing itself in a beard.

From 1968 to 1972 Mulligan worked for the most part as a saxophonist with the Dave Brubeck Quartet. He was brought in to replace Paul Desmond, the most commercially successful alto saxophonist of the period, and listeners were amazed that Mulligan's baritone could match the effortless sweetness and soaring lyricism for which Desmond's alto was known.

In 1972 Mulligan formed a big band called the Age of Steam, reflecting his passion for locomotives. Its music developed his compositional and arranging ideas for a large ensemble in parallel with continued work in the quartet format. For much of the rest of his life, he was to alternate between leading large ensembles and touring with the quartet. He taught, too, after a period as artist in residence at the University of Miami in 1974, and also took up soprano saxophone, although he continued to play baritone at his principal instrument.

In the late 1970s, Mulligan shuttled between the US and Italy, leading a sextet for three years before forming one of his most influential big bands in 1978. This grew into a 20-piece orchestra which appeared in New York in the early 1980s, and Mulligan experimented by adding unusual percussion and electronic instruments. Young players such as the pianist Mitchell Forman, the trumpeter Tom Harrell and the saxophonist Gerry Niewood all came to prominence with this band. As his young female trumpeter Laurie Frink was to recall, he was "very astute when it came to picking musicians, extremely exacting in rehearsal, but more than helpful in explaining things".

Mulligan's 1980s small groups included a quintet with tenorist Scott Hamilton, and a quartet with bassist Dean Johnson which recorded his 1988 Glasgow Festival commission (again on a railway theme) *Flying Scotsman*. Johnson was to remain in Mulligan's groups for the rest of the saxophonist's life, joined in the 1990s by pianist Ted Rosenthal and drummer Ron Vincent. Together they toured extensively.

Though Mulligan's last recordings suggest a renewed burst of creative energy, the 1992 re-recording of the arrangements from *Birth of the Cool*, by Mulligan, John Lewis and Gil Evans, with Wallace Roney playing Miles Davis's part, suggested a conscious re-evaluation by Mulligan of his contribution to modern jazz. Mulligan last played in November 1995 on a transatlantic jazz cruise aboard the *QE 2* but on his return home his final illness was already making it difficult for him to continue.

Gerry Mulligan is survived by his third wife Franca, and by a son from his first marriage.

THE VERY REV HAROLD FRANKHAM

The Very Rev Harold Frankham, Provost of Southwark, 1970-82, died on January 17 aged 84. He was born on April 16, 1911.

BELONGING to the Evangelical wing of the Church of England, Harold Frankham became Provost of Southwark at a particularly difficult period in that cathedral's history. His predecessor was Ernie Southcott, a radical, prophetic figure from Leeds who had played a leading part in founding the "house church" movement.

The strains of administering a cathedral had, however, proved too much for him and in 1970, broken in health, he retired to a small Lancashire parish. In any event, by the end of the 1960s, the bloom had tended to go off "South Bank religion" and it may have been in recognition of this that Mervyn Stockwood selected as Southcott's successor a robust exponent of biblical Christianity who at the time held the important living of Luton.

Harold Edward Frankham had an impeccable pedigree as an Evangelical but his appointment was still a surprising one, since Southwark Cathedral — unlike, say, that of Bradford (incongruously still under the patronage of the Simeon Trustees) — had no identification with the Protestant strand within the Church of England. But Frankham, as he had proved at Luton, was a born organiser and he soon brought gifts of structure and order to the parish church cathedral that lies by London Bridge.

There were still to be storms ahead — one of them involving the departure of the canon precentor in 1973 — but Southwark Cathedral was certainly a much more tightly run ship under Frankham than it had been under his immediate predecessor. Unlike his successor, David Edwards, Frankham may not have possessed any great claim to scholarship but he had a forthright way of preaching the Gospel that had its appeal to a by then slightly bewildered Southwark diocese.

The Provost's job at Southwark, though, has always had the reputation of being one of the hardship posts within the Church of England — and it says much for Frankham's gifts of stamina and resilience that he should have stuck it out for a full dozen years.

By the time he was appointed at the age of 59, he was probably already too old to hope for any further preferment (although three of his postwar predecessors had, in fact, gone on to be diocesan bishops). As it was, he stayed *en poste* until the relatively late age of 71, though his reluctance to retire could have been partially explained by the fact that he needed to complete 40 years' pensionable service.

Harold Frankham was certainly not the product of any privileged background. Like George Carey, the present Archbishop of Canterbury, he attended the London College of Divinity when he was already well into his twenties, and he was not ordained until he was 30. His first curacy was at Luton (to which he would later return as vicar), while his second at Holy Trinity, Brompton, under Bryan Green, suggested that he had already been marked out as a rising hope of the Church's Evangelical wing. From there he went to be vicar of Addiscombe, then in the Canterbury diocese, before moving north in 1952 to be rector of Middleton in Lancashire, where he also became rural dean.

The summons from the Peache Trustees to be vicar of Luton came in 1961 and in 1967, the same year that he was made rural dean of Luton, he was appointed an honorary canon of St Albans. Between 1965 and 1973 he also served as executive secretary to the two Archbishops' Council on Evangelism — and in an era less prejudiced against the promotion of biblical Protestants could well have hoped to move onto the episcopal bench. As it was, his work at Luton, particularly with youth, won him considerable renown — something that Mervyn Stockwood, no doubt, had in mind when he invited him to join him in Southwark for the second, and more placid, half of his 21-year reign in that diocese.

On his retirement in 1982, Frankham went to live first in Bath and then for the last two years in Harnham outside Salisbury. He married in 1942 Margaret Jean Annear, who survives him, together with a son and two daughters of the marriage (one son having predeceased him).

DERMOT WILSON

Dermot Wilson, MC, fly fisherman, died on January 10 aged 71. He was born on June 4, 1924.

DERMOT WILSON was as important to the fishermen of the Test and the Itchen in the middle and latter part of this century as Halford was in the 1880s and 1890s. His book, *Fishing the Dry Fly*, first published as *Dry Fly Beginnings*, has been in print for nearly 40 years and is shortly to go into another edition.

Dermot Needham Furnival Wilson came of an old army family. His father Major-General T. N. F. Wilson was on duty with the British Army of occupation in Germany in 1924 when his son was born. The young Wilson followed in the family tradition, went to school at Winchester, served with the KRRC (60th Rifles) from 1942 to 1947, winning the MC and a mention in dispatches during the fighting in North West Europe — a time which he was always reluctant to discuss.

But, even as young man, he had a compulsive talent for words, which the Army was unable to satisfy. Accordingly in 1947 he joined the staff of the leading advertising agency J. Walter Thompson as a copywriter. Here his writing talents and a vivid imagination had full scope and he became their youngest-ever director when he was appointed to the board in 1961.

But a new idea was now taking shape. He had always been a fisherman, whether for pike in his uncle's lake in Ireland or as a member of the Winchester College Fly Fishing Society. Some time during 1968 his plans began to crystallise. He would find a place to live by the chalk streams of Hampshire and have a small business related to fishing, and especially dry fly fishing for trout which had become his passion.

The business was based on an idea which was unique at the time: the production of a mail order catalogue of the highest quality which would have all the things that a fisherman would need but would also have, for the first time, advice on how to fish, what kind of rods and tackle would be best to use, how to cast and what knots to tie.

Launched with all the expertise behind it of J. Walter Thompson, it was an immediate success and he and his wife Renée worked day and night to cope with the demand. They were fortunate in finding an ancient mill for their headquarters at Nether Wallop in Hampshire on the banks of a small tributary of the Test. The business flourished from 1968 to 1981 when, because of Wilson's increasing ill-health, it was taken over by the American company Ovris.

Dermot Wilson was chairman of the Anglers Co-operative Association, 1971-76, a president of the Grayling Society, a member of the Flyfishers' Club of London and of the Anglers' Club of New York. He founded the water resources group of the Salmon and Trout Association and led many campaigns on behalf of fish and fishermen. His great joy lay always in teaching the young how to fish the dry fly on the millpond at Nether Wallop and on the Test at Kimbridge.

One of his pupils recalls how skilful Wilson was in his approach to a rising fish. All that could be seen was the waving of a rod and not until the trout had taken the fly did Wilson "rise from the undergrowth like Cerberus with a landing net".

He leaves his widow and a son, also a fisherman.

H. EDWARD GUMBEL

H. Edward Gumbel, OBE, reinsurance broker, died on December 23 aged 82. He was born on August 31, 1913.

DURING his long professional career with Willis, Faber & Dumas, now Willis Corroon, Edward Gumbel became probably the best-known reinsurance broker in the world. His achievements in this specialised but vital field were a tribute not just to his intelligence and integrity but to his internationalism and breadth of vision, together with a capacity to forge close and fruitful personal relations and reconcile differing interests and aims.

H. Eduard Gümbel was born in Bingen on the Rhine into a family of Jewish descent but liberal tradition. In 1931 he chose to be christened and, as head of his class, gave the customary school leavers' address, still remembered 50 years later by former classmates. He then spent terms at Geneva, Berlin and Heidelberg universities. With the advent of Hitler to power, he determined in May 1933 to complete his studies abroad. Only in March 1939 could he convince his parents to follow.

Gumbel came first to London, working with a merchant bank and attending the London School of Economics in 1933-34. Proceeding to Zurich University, he graduated *magna cum laude* in June 1935 as its youngest-ever Doctor of Laws. His comparative law thesis on bankers' commercial credits was published, but his studies had not been restricted to law. He attended lectures by Harold Laski and William Beveridge on economics and political science, by Carl C. Jung on psychology, and by Karl Jaspers, a lifelong favourite, on philosophy. In 1935 he turned to insurance, working in Geneva. In 1936 he came back to England, this time for good, to read for the Bar, but carrying also an introduction to Felix Douglas-Whyte of Willis Faber & Dumas.

Douglas-Whyte had, like Gumbel, an overseas background, a brilliant mind and a natural facility with languages, as well as a shared accomplishment at tennis. Between the 1930s and 1950s, Douglas-Whyte developed for Willis, previously a traditional marine insurance broker, a major reinsurance account. Gumbel never wavered in his loyalty to his mentor but he was from the 1950s to the 1980s himself to prove no less dominant in the expansion of Willis's worldwide reinsurance account — in Europe, in the Middle East, in Latin America and in Japan.

When war came, with Gumbel's application for naturalisation still pending, he was classified "C" (refugee from Nazi oppression). After Dunkirk, the British Government interned even such refugees. Despite the shock, Gumbel thus spent six months in some good company, and acquired a fourth language, Spanish.

In 1941 he came top in the Bar Finals with first-class honours and a certificate of honour worth £50. His naturalisation and call to the Bar could only be completed after the war, so the prize remained unpaid until 1947. Happily, in the meantime

Gumbel met Ellen Frank, then practising as a radiographer, who shared his interests in music, the arts and literature. They married in June 1946, and the prize paid for their first continental holiday.

From 1946 Gumbel became involved in active broking. He rose to marine reinsurance manager and ordinary director and in 1966 he was appointed to the main board. His flexible mind broke through conventions which had restricted markets and inhibited the availability of comprehensive cover for risks of ever-growing size and complexity. Willis bridged a gap between those dealing with Lloyd's and with the companies market. Tradition had also viewed the great continental reinsurers who dealt directly with their clients, as rivals of brokers like Willis.

Gumbel convinced them that co-operation was more fruitful, and they relished his philosophical grasp of his subject. Ever-increasing business followed in both directions. Gumbel was always keen to look at a client's overall position, to protect its balance sheet, rather than dissipate energies on diverse smaller protections, and to broaden the broker's role towards overall risk management. He was active on the agency underwriting side, becoming ultimately chairman of Willis Faber Underwriting Management, where he fostered existing relations and developed new links with major Japanese and European groups.

True to his own history, he was an enthusiastic sponsor of students and recruits. He wrote extensively and multilingually in insurance and legal magazines. He promoted reinsurance arbitration and draft clauses. As chairman of the British Insurance Law Association, he initiated a successful tradition of City meetings. Before Britain's 1973 admission to the Common Market, he visited Europe with Sir Henry Mance, chairman of Lloyd's, and R. I. Sloan, chairman of Commercial Union, to seek to negotiate the open insurance market which is only now a reality. When the German Ministry of Justice came to amend its law on insurance supervision (VAG) to cover Lloyd's, it turned to Gumbel. It gladdened his heart in suddenly Euro-sceptic times to be greeted at a recent Baden-Baden insurance conference as "Mr Europe".

The key to Gumbel's career was a great love of travel. This was always combined with visits to the opera, theatre, museums, churches and private houses, with tennis and skiing fitted in where possible.

At its basis was a happy home life in Surrey, where Ellen and he were generous hosts and gave some memorable family parties. The support which Gumbel gave over the years to institutions and friends extended recently to a history of his hometown, Bingen, for which he never lost his affection.

Underpinning all Gumbel's activity was a thoughtful and independent-minded Christianity. A close friend of Canon Bryan Green for nearly 60 years, and of Canon Max Warren for more than 20 years, he served on (and later chaired) the executive committee of the Church Missionary Society, along with other close friends, among them John Taylor, later Bishop of Winchester. He became treasurer of the British Trust for the Ecumenical Institute for Theological Research (Tantur) set up by Pope Paul VI in the Holy Land to promote understanding between the great monotheistic religions.

Gumbel retired in 1983 but remained energetic as a consultant to Willis, as an expert and arbitrator in insurance affairs and in private life. As an arbitrator he kept his preference for reconciliation over argument, on one occasion even brokering a successful compromise over the lawyers' heads. During his final illness Gumbel retained his infectious *joie de vivre* and wrote his memoirs.

In 1984 he was decorated with the Commander's Cross of the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany and in 1989 he was appointed OBE. He is survived by his wife, two daughters and three sons.

Inner Temple scholarships

The Inner Temple has announced the following benefactors' scholarships for 1996:

Olukemi Alagabala, LLB, of London School of Economics: a Leonard Woodley Scholarship of £1,000.

Siward Atkins, MA, of Edinburgh University, and CPE of City University, London: an Ede & Ravenscroft Prize of a wig and gown.

Jessica Blakemore, BA, of Southampton University, and CPE of College of Law, London: a Paul Methven Scholarship of £75.

Grace Brown, BA, of University of London, and CPE of City University, London: an Otto Rix Scholarship of £700.

Catherine Brunner, BA, of Edinburgh University, and of City University, London: a Sweet and Maxwell Scholarship of £400.

Jeremy Budd, BSc, of Cambridge University, and CPE of City University, London: a Horace Avory Scholarship of £500.

Steven Edwards, BA, of Oxford Polytechnic, and LLB of Oxford Brookes University: a Yarbrough-Anderson Scholarship of £300 and a Wilfred Clothier Scholarship of £650.

Miriam Greenald, LLB, of Durham University: a Peta Fordham Scholarship of £450.

Anthony Jackson, BA, of Corpus Christi College, Oxford: a Kenneth Solomon Scholarship of £20.

Carol Knotts, LLB, of Birmingham University: an Ashworth Scholarship of £350.

Richard Lee, LLB, of Liverpool University: a Hughes Parry Scholarship of £50 and an Elfreda Edwards Scholarship of £350.

Conor McCloskey, LLB, of North London University: a Cecile Yahuda Scholarship of £250.

Anne Muragu, of Yale University: a Charlotte Bircher Scholarship of £4,893.

Adrian Messina, BA, of Corpus Christi College, Oxford: a Profumo Scholarship of £105 and a Forster Boulton scholarship of £20.

Christopher Pearson, BSc, of Durham University, and CPE of Law School, Guildford: a Neville Laski Scholarship of £150 and a Geoffrey Veale Scholarship of £100.

Siri Pertwee, BA, of Bristol University and of City University, London: a Profumo Scholarship of £105.

Benjamin Pilling, BA, of Lincoln College, Oxford, and of City University, London: a Profumo Scholarship of £105.

Mark Sutherland-Williams, LLB, of Exeter University: a Yarborough Anderson Scholarship of £300 and a Profumo Scholarship of £105.

Rhys Taylor, LLB, of Reading University: a Philip Teichman Scholarship of £150.

Nicholas Tse, BA, of St Anne's College, Oxford: a Sunley Prize of £160 and a Paul Methven Scholarship of £75.

Ufondu Udeze, LLB, of Liverpool University: a Frank and Burris Gahan Scholarship of £550.

Amanda Weston, LLB, of East Londn University: an Ashworth Scholarship of £350 and a Basil Nield Scholarship of £250.

Darron Whitehead, LLB, of Sheffield Hallam University: a Michael Hodge Scholarship of £80.

ON THIS DAY

January 22, 1878

The 68ft Cleopatra's Needle on the Thames Embankment has no connection with the Egyptian queen. It left Alexandria in 1877 but was almost lost during a storm in the Bay of Biscay. A rescue attempt was successful.

CLEOPATRA'S NEEDLE

The *Cleopatra*, with the Alexandrian obelisk on board, was safely moored yesterday afternoon in the East India Docks.

It was said that the *Anglia*, with the *Cleopatra* in tow, had left Gravesend at half-past 12, an announcement which turned out to have been a little premature, as the start thence was not made until 1 . . .

The *Cleopatra's* captain reports that during the time spent at Ferrol before the arrival of the *Anglia*, he and his picked English crew were busy in setting the ship to rights, after the injuries sustained from the fearful hurricane in the Bay of Biscay on October 14th.

They repaired the rudder, furnished her with new masts and sails, and, above all, secured the railway iron used as ballast, the shifting of which had done so much in causing the wreck, in the most effectual manner. The rails were now no longer left liable to get loose, but built in right down, so as to become, as it were, part and parcel of the ship's fabric.

They left Ferrol at 7 o'clock on the morning of Tuesday last, the wind at the time blowing a fresh gale E.S.E. In crossing the Bay of Biscay, they had to encounter a long westerly roll, but they had no very bad weather to complain of. The length of the tow-line paid out from the Anglia was 120 fathoms. They made the Saints' Light, south of Ushant, at 6 on Thursday evening, and passed Ushant at midnight, which accounts for no telegram giving new having been received by Lloyd's.

At daylight on Friday she passed a Peninsular and Oriental steamer. On the evening of the same day they made the Start Light, and were off Portland at 9 the next morning. On passing the island they hailed the pilot cutter *Isle of Wight*, No. 6, which having hove to they gave the pilot a message for Lloyd's, reporting the ship as then passing Portland, such message to be handed to the first homeward-bound steamer. The message, it seems, never came to hand. They hauled in and made the Needles at 4 p.m. on Saturday, and made the ship's number. They had that night the long moon on which they reckoned so hopefully for passing up Channel. But the weather was very hazy and a breeze began to rise from the south-west, which increased all night. On Sunday morning the wind looked like blowing a very strong breeze, and the weather seemed wild and threatening.

As already reported in the telegrams from Lloyd's, Dungeness was made at 7 a.m. on that day, Dover at about noon, and Margate at 4.30 pm. The Chapman Light was passed at 10 p.m., and Gravesend was reached an hour afterwards. As to the conduct of his ship, Captain Carter speaks highly. The *Cleopatra* does not roll, and if she pitches a good deal, plunging sometimes, like a porpoise, with all but her cabin under water, she jumps up again from her dip like a diving duck. Should her cabin be struck by a heavy beam sea, she is so well ballasted that after just heeling well over she will right herself at once.

AT 11.55 a.m. yesterday the following message from Her Majesty to Mr John Dixon, through Colonel Sir Thomas Biddulph, was despatched from Osborne:— "The Queen is much gratified at hearing of the safe arrival of the Needle."

THE TIMES TODAY

MONDAY JANUARY 22 1996

NEWS

Labour rift over Harman school

■ A damaging Shadow Cabinet row erupted over Harriet Harman's decision to go against Labour Party policy and send one of her children to a grammar school.

Clare Short, Shadow Transport Secretary, said Ms Harman, Shadow Health Secretary, "must answer to her constituents" over choosing to send her son to St Olave's School, Orpington — reputedly one of England's most selective schools .... **Page 1**

Ferry survivor tells of ordeal

■ A British backpacker, Steve Nicholson, one of only 39 people to survive a ferry disaster in Indonesia, described how he and his girlfriend had dodged debris and bodies in the water for 20 hours before being rescued. Mr Nicholson broke down as he told of his escape and his proposal of marriage to Caroline Harrison as they clung to a lifejacket.................. **Page 1**

Meningitis increase

A sudden increase in cases of meningococcal meningitis is worrying doctors. The number has risen by 36 per cent in the past year.................. **Page 1**

Granada tax shock

Taxpayers stand to lose up to £450 million in direct subsidies and lost tax if Granada succeeds tomorrow in its takeover bid for Forte, the hotel group ...... **Page 1**

Outlook cold

Britain is facing its second cold snap of the winter with temperatures likely to remain around freezing in most of the country for the next few days.............. **Page 1**

Lottery pressure

Church leaders have stepped up their pressure on Virginia Bottomley, the Heritage Secretary, to review the impact of the National Lottery in the light of another rollover jackpot.................. **Page 2**

Palace worried

The Duchess of York's efforts to stave off financial crisis by striking a deal with an American tycoon are causing growing concern at Buckingham Palace.................. **Page 3**

Death fight

A young woman police officer and a businessman described how they struggled in vain to prevent a man from killing his wife in a frenzied knife attack.................. **Page 4**

Abortion campaign

Leaflets, bearing the image of an 11-week-old foetus in the womb are the latest salvo in a fierce battle over abortion, which is illegal in Guernsey.............. **Page 5**

Scargill's battle

The Hemsworth by-election is the first set-piece electoral battle between new and old Labour. Arthur Scargill has put up a candidate under the banner of his new breakaway Socialist Labour Party.................. **Page 6**

Priests change

About 50 former Roman Catholic priests are serving as Anglican clergy, most of them because they wished to marry.............. **Page 7**

Arafat victory

Islamic Militants suffered a humiliating defeat in the first Palestinian general elections as voters gave Yassir Arafat a sweeping victory.................. **Page 8**

Land share-out

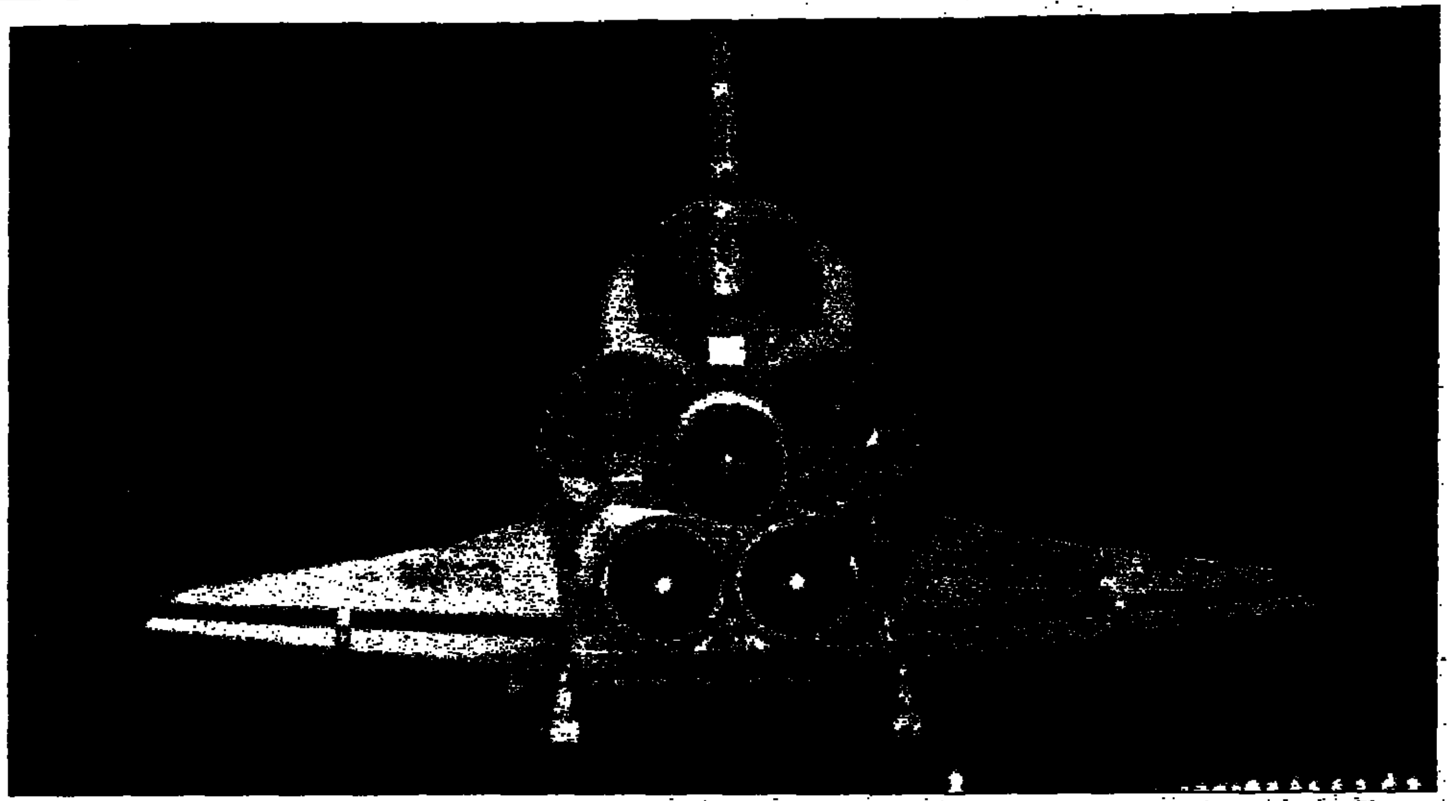
The South African Government is talking of sweeping land reform, with 30 per cent of the land to be redistributed among blacks within a few years.................. **Page 9**

Mass grave

A rubbish dump outside the Bosnian town of Brcko is believed to be the site of a mass grave containing Muslims and Croats who were killed when the Serb militia captured the town in the spring of 1992.................. **Page 10**

Sense, sensibility and a stately star

■ A Georgian house in Devon is being prepared as this year's most stately media star. The National Trust is expecting record visitors at Saltram House because it features in the new film of *Sense and Sensibility*. The film starring Emma Thompson and Hugh Grant uses the property as the Dashwood family home, Norland Park, for the Jane Austen drama.................. **Page 3**



The space shuttle *Endeavour* landing at the Kennedy Space Centre after nine days in orbit during which it retrieved two satellites

BUSINESS

Forte: Granada should hear tomorrow that it has the backing of Mercury Asset Management which should swing its £3.9 billion hostile bid.................. **Page 40**

Economy: The Group of Seven played down the threat of a world economic slowdown after meeting in Paris but France and Germany *held talks about stimulating their* economies.................. **Page 40**

Roads: A consortium that is poised to win the £169 million-plus contract to build two of Britain's first privately-funded road schemes is planning a bond issue next month to finance the project .... **Page 40**

Staying in: *British businessmen* have swallowed the view that lunch is for wimps, with three quarters eating only a sandwich .... **Page 40**

ARTS

Musical might: A BBC festival at the Barbican reveals the genius of Charles Ives, one of the pioneers of American music.............. **Page 14**

Icelandic star: Björk has risen from rank outsider to mainstream superstar in under three years but, as her Sheffield show proved, her charms remain undiminished by *worldwide success*.............. **Page 14**

High notes: English National Opera's revival of *The Magic Flute* reveals Nicholas Hytner's near-classic production in what must be its freshest state since it was new eight years ago.............. **Page 15**

Silent stage: Samuel Beckett's *Acts Without Words* has been ably staged, by Andy Lavender, for the London International Mime Festival.................. **Page 15**

Kenyan crusader: "One's hard work to save animals will come to nothing if the human population is suffering under corruption. That is my new crusade." Richard Leakey on his fresh agenda.............. **Page 12**

Frustrated grannies: Families start later and some mothers feel they are missing out on responsibility-free baby fun.................. **Page 13**

Spinal fusion: Thirty-four million Britons suffer backache every year. *Day one: a treatment trial and* a diagnostic key.................. **Page 11**

Disabled living: Holidays, technology, and charities ...... **Pages 32-33**

IN THE TIMES

■ **EXILE RETURNS**
Listening to the godfather of South African pop: Hugh Masekela in London

■ **ROAD DEATHS**
How the law is failing the victims of careless driving

Cricket: Reeve, Ramprakash and Watkinson were discarded from England's World Cup plans yesterday after a familiar batting collapse led to a final defeat and a 6-1 drubbing in the one-day series against South Africa.............. **Page 23**

Football: Dwight Yorke scored a superb late goal to secure the victory over Tottenham Hotspur that lifted Aston Villa to fifth place in the Premiership.................. **Page 21**

Rugby union: Rob Andrew believes England showed character and commitment on which other elements can be grafted, despite their defeat by France.............. **Page 25**

Hockey: Great Britain were held to a 1-1 draw by Canada in the Olympic qualifying tournament in Barcelona *after failing to capitalise on* their early advantage........ **Page 29**

Tennis: Thomas Muster, the Austrian clay-court specialist, could take over the world No 1 ranking, despite his fourth-round defeat in the Australian Open.............. **Page 22**

Ice hockey: Mel Webb ventures *into Slough Ice Arena and discovers a sport unsuited to spectators of* a nervous disposition .... **Page 29**

School sport: Sir William Borlase's Grammar has produced a string of international hockey players, thanks to the dedication of the master in charge.............. **Page 29**

5; 23, 25, 30, 37, 33. Bonus 3.

Preview: The story of an Indian woman who was a British agent in occupied France: *Calling London* (BBC2, 7.30). **Review:** *The Natural World* on cephalopods was a magnificent programme plumbing real depths, says Lynne Truss.

Put the child first

Harriet Harman, by sending her son to a *selective grammar school*, has ensured her son of an excellent education. She has also exposed the contradictions in *Labour's* education policy.................. **Page 17**

Italy in limbo

If Italy needs an election during its European presidency, it should not feel embarrassed about letting down its partners.............. **Page 17**

Bricks and stardust

Stately homes are becoming Britain's top movie stars. Jane Austen would have approved .... ***Page 17***

WILLIAM REES-MOGG

The Queen stood on a little dais; Bob Maxwell had been told to station himself five yards behind. We *might have known*. As the Australian athletes marched past to the strains of *Waltzing Matilda*, Bob, *twice lifesize as ever, was standing* towering over the Queen on the podium.................. **Page 16**

PETER RIDDELL

As one senior minister vividly remarked last week, the Government already needs several snookers to win. That requires faith..... **Page 16**

Gerry Mulligan, jazz composer and baritone saxophonist; **The Very Rev Harold Frankham**, Provost of Southwark; **H. Gumbel**, reinsurance broker.................. **Page 22**

Tory fortunes; Russia's democracy; ruddy duck; YCs; honours list; olive oil; choosing schools .... **Page 17**

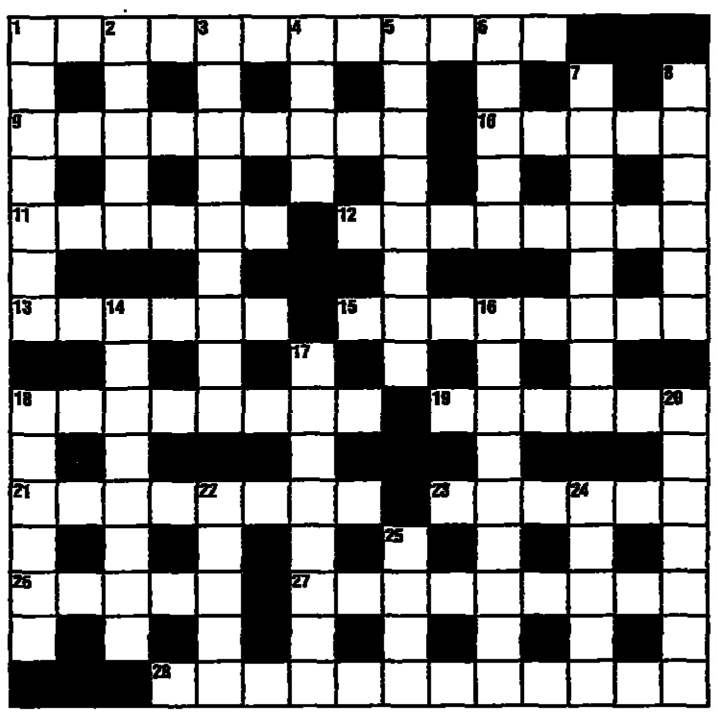
In the 19th century one observer defined Russian imperialism as "incompetence plus brutality" Little has changed

— *The Sunday Telegraph*

This slap of firm royal government is a welcome reminder, and not only to her daughters-in-law, that Her Majesty rules. And long may she

— *Sunday Express*

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,070



ACROSS

1 Confection served in Brideshead, say, with whisky (12).
9 Beginners missing from pass list want someone to help (9).
10 The last character to reject a possible diamond ring (5).
11 Academic works males included in educational journal (6).
12 Unexpected bonanza for down-to-earth Granny Smith, perhaps (8).
13 Limitation on movement in springs (6).
15 Doggedness taking a number to Westminster, perhaps (8).
18 Tough soldier returning in ferry to his country (8).
19 Mountainous area, as depicted in manuscript poem (6).
21 Valet provided familiar pipe (8).
23 Skilled description of some poetry (6).
26 Topping worker one left out of shoot (5).
27 New car halted in the service area? (9).
28 Studying one drawing showing part of submarine (7,5).

DOWN

1 African bishop conceals entry to rich source of prizes (4-3).
2 Flavour — what a steak needs (5).
3 Londoner's responsibility in Spring festival (4,5).
4 Strike in the Akond's place (4).
5 Ring to secure free escort (8).
6 Obscure source of Indra's downfall? (5).
7 They may be fired with enthusiasm by craftsmen (8).
8 The depression Conan Doyle associated with fear (6).
14 Insistently but peacefully supports old city (8).
16 Man and beast initially enduring terrible humiliation (9).
17 Open article for innkeeper (8).
18 Military engineers keeping books out of the way (6).
20 Musician who's involved in sharp practice? (7).
22 Do without, in spite of vigorous activity (5).
24 Worn-out horse turned round by driver? (5).
25 Finish off daring manoeuvre in shock (4).

Times Two Crossword, page 40

ABERLOUR

The solution of Saturday's Prize Puzzle *No 20,069 will appear* next Saturday. The five winners will receive a bottle of Aberlour single highland malt whisky.

TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0891 500 followed by the appropriate code

Greater London	701
Kent, Surrey, Sussex	702
Dorset, Hants & IOW	703
Devon & Cornwall	704
Wilts, Gloucs, Avon, Soms	705
Berks, Bucks, Oxon	706
Beds, Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk, Suffolk, Cambs	708
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	709
Shrops, Herefds & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
Caithness, Orkney & Shetland	726
N Ireland	727

Weathercall is charged at 39p per minute (cheap rate) and 49p per minute at all other times.

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic/roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0336 401 followed by the appropriate code

London & SE traffic, roadworks	
Area within M25	731
Essex/Herts/Beds/Bucks/Berks/Oxon	732
Kent/Surrey/Sussex/Hants	734
M25 London Orbital only	*736*
National traffic and roadworks	
National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 39p per minute (cheap rate) and 49p per minute at all other times

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Yesterday: *Highest day temp:* St Mary's, Isles of Scilly, 11C (52F); lowest day max: Buxton, Derbyshire, -1C (30F); highest rainfall: Minehead, Somerset, 0.24in; highest sunshine: Jersey, Channel Islands, 3.7hr

FLIGHT SAVERS

£58

LONDON TO GLASGOW EDINBURGH OR ABERDEEN

Phone Air UK on 0345 666777 or contact your travel agent. All major credit cards accepted. Subject to availability and airport tax. Restrictions apply. AirUK

FORECAST

☐ **General:** England and Wales will be generally cloudy, with wintry outbreaks along the east coast from East Anglia northwards. The best of any brightness will be in sheltered western parts. During the afternoon, rain will spread in to the South West but will make no further progress.

Scotland and Northern Ireland will also be generally cloudy, with the best of any brightness in parts of *western Scotland. There will also be* outbreaks of rain and snow in eastern Scotland, as well as parts of Northern Ireland.

☐ **London, SE England, E Anglia, Central S England, E Midlands, W Midlands:** generally dry and cloudy. Wind easterly, moderate to fresh. Feeling cold. Max 4C (39F).

☐ **E England, Central N, NE England, *Borders, Edinburgh &* Dundee, Aberdeen, Central Highlands, Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Orkney, Shetland:** cloudy outbreaks of rain and snow, especially over hills. Wind moderate, easterly. Feeling cold. Max 3C (37F).

☐ **Channel Isles, SW England:** cloudy with some brighter spells early on, but rain spreading from the south later. Wind strong to near gale, easterly. Feeling cool. Max 8C (46F).

☐ **S Wales, N Wales, NW England, Lake District, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Argyll, NW Scotland:** generally cloudy, some brighter spells in sheltered spots. Wind fresh, easterly. Feeling cold. Max 5C (41F).

☐ **Isle of Man, N Ireland:** cloudy with outbreaks of light sleet, dying out. Wind moderate to fresh, easterly. Max 5C (41F).

☐ **Outlook for Tuesday and *Wednesday:*** *cloudy and cold*, with rain generally in the South West and wintry showers further northeast.

AROUND BRITAIN

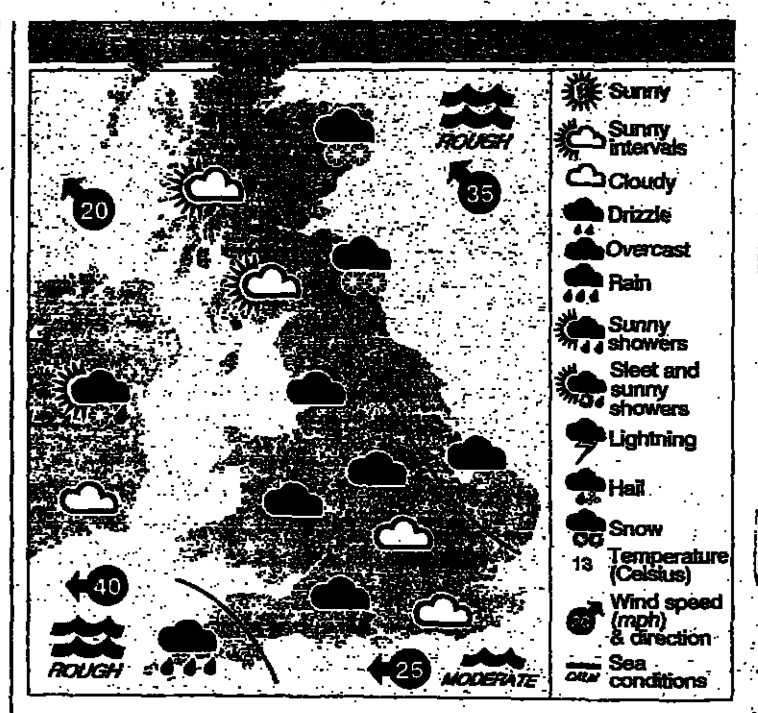
24 hrs to 5 pm: b=bright; c=cloud; d=drizzle; ds=dust storm; du=dull; f=fair; fg=fog; g=gale; h=hail; r=rain; sh=shower; sl=sleet; sn=snow; s=sun; t=thunder

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F			Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	-	0.06	4	39	r	London	-	-	4	39	c
Anglesey	3.0	-	6	43	s	Lowestoft	-	-	2	36	d
Aspatria	-	-	3	37	du	Manchester	-	0.01	3	37	c
Aviemore	-	-	3	37	sn	Margate	-	-	3	37	du
Belfast	-	0.01	4	39	r	Minehead	-	0.24	3	37	du
Birmingham	-	0.13	2	36	sn	Morecambe	-	-	3	37	du
Bognor R	-	0.02	3	37	du	Newcastle	-	0.03	2	36	r
Bournem'th	-	0.05	3	37	c	Newquay	X				
Bristol	X					Norwich	-	-	2	36	du
Buxton	-	0.02	-1	30	fg	Nottingham	X				
Cardiff	-	0.07	3	37	du	Oxford	-	-	3	37	c
Cleethorpes	X					Penzance	X				
Colwyn Bay	-	-	3	37	c	Plymouth	X				
Cromer	-	-	1	34	du	Poole	-	0.08	4	39	c
Doncaster	X					Prestatyn	X	0.02	3	37	sn
Eastbourne	-	0.03	3	37	c	Ross-o-wye	-	0.06	3	37	du
Edinburgh	X					Ryde	X				
Eskdalemuir	-	-	1	34	sn	Salcombe	X				
Exmouth	0.1	0.13	5	41	c	Sandown	-	0.01	7	45	du
Falmouth	X					Saunton Snd	2.5	-	5	41	b
Fishguard	2.2	0.01	5	41	b	Scarboro'	-	0.02	2	36	sl
Folkestone	-	-	2	36	du	Shanklin	-	0.01	7	45	du
Glasgow	-	-	3	37	r	Shrewsbury	-	0.09	2	36	sn
Guernsey	X					Skegness	X				
Hastings	-	0.03	2	36	c	Southend	-	-	3	37	du
Hayling I	-	-	3	37	c	Southport	-	-	3	37	du
Herne Bay	-	-	3	37	du	Southsea	-	0.01	3	37	c
Hove	-	-	3	37	du	St. Ives	X				
Hunstanton	-	-	2	36	du	Stornoway	-	-	5	41	c
Ilfracombe	X					Swanage	-	0.05	4	39	c
Isle of Man	-	-	4	39	du	Teignmouth	-	-	6	43	c
Jersey	3.7	-	6	43	b	Tenby	X				
Kinloss	-	-	4	39	r	Tiree	-	-	5	41	h
Leeds	-	0.06	2	36	sn	Torquay	-	-	8	46	c
Lerwick	-	-	4	39	h	Tynemouth	-	0.03	3	37	d
Leuchars	-	0.01	4	39	r	Ventnor	-	-	3	37	du
Littlehmptn	-	0.02	X	X	du	West-s-mare	X				
Liverpool	-	-	3	37	sn	Weymouth	0.2	0.18	4	39	b

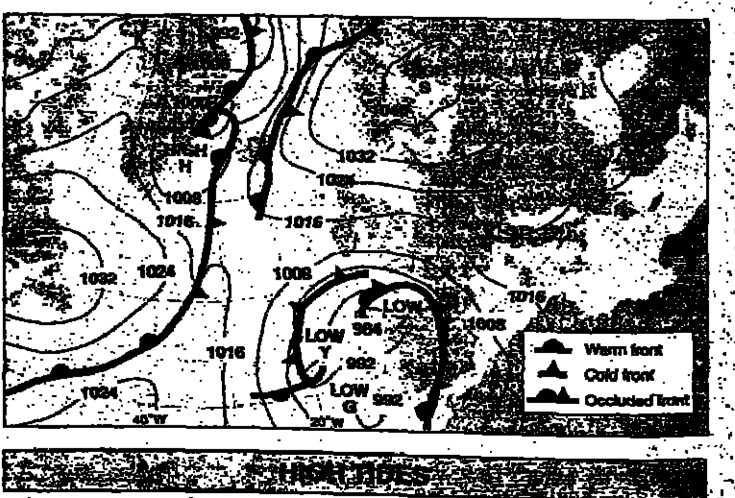
ABROAD

Ajaccio	15	59	f	Corfu	11	52	f	Madrid	9	48	c	Rome	14	57	f
Akrotiri	15	59	f	C'phagn	-1	30	sn	Majorca	17	63	f	S Fr'sco	12	54	c
Alex'dria	17	63	f	Dublin	5	41	c	Malaga	13	55	r	S Paulo	27	81	f
Algiers	19	66	s	Dubrovnik	11	52	f	Malta	14	57	f	Salzburg	-1	30	s
Amst'dm	-1	30	c	Faro	14	57	c	Melb'rne	18	65	c	Santiago	26	79	s
Athens	10	50	f	Florence	8	46	f	Mexico C	15	59	s	Seoul	3	37	s
B Aires	X			Frankfurt	-1	30	f	Miami	26	79	t	Sing'por	30	86	f
Bahrain	18	64	s	Funchal	14	57	f	Milan	5	41	c	St'kholm	-5	23	c
Bangkok	33	91	f	Geneva	1	34	c	Montreal	10	50	r	Strasb'rg	2	36	f
Barcelona	14	57	f	Gibraltar	15	59	r	Moscow	-6	21	sn	Sydney	21	70	c
Beirut	16	61	f	Helsinki	-5	23	sn	Munich	-4	25	c	Tangier	12	54	r
Belfast	3	37	c	Hong K	19	66	f	N Delhi	19	66	s	Tel Aviv	15	59	f
Belgrade	1	34	c	Innsbrck	2	36	s	N York	13	55	r	Tenerife	23	73	c
Berlin	-7	19	s	Istanbul	5	41	f	Naples	12	54	f	Tokyo	8	46	s
Bermuda	20	68	f	Jeddah	26	79	s	Nice	13	55	c	Toronto	-5	23	sn
Biarritz	15	59	f	Jo'burg	19	66	r	Oslo	-5	23	s	Tunis	16	61	f
Borde'x	11	52	s	Karachi	X			Paris	4	39	s	Valencia	16	61	s
Brussels	1	34	c	L Angels	15	59	f	Peking	1	34	s	Vanc'ver	1	34	c
Budapst	-1	30	s	L Palmas	21	70	f	Perth	28	82	s	Venice	3	37	f
Cairo	15	59	c	Le Touqt	2	36	s	Prague	-4	25	c	Vienna	-1	30	c
Cape Tn	30	86	s	Lisbon	9	48	r	Reykjavik	-1	30	c	Warsaw	-6	21	sn
Ch'church	22	72	-	Locarno	4	39	c	Rhodes	13	55	s	Wash'ton	13	55	r
Chicago	-12	10	s	Luxembg	-2	28	f	Rio de J	29	84	f	Wel'ngton	22	72	-
Cologne	1	34	s	Luxor	20	68	s	Riyadh	16	61	f	Zurich	-1	30	s

Temperatures at midday local time. X = not available



Changes to the chart below from noon: lows Y, Z and G will slowly circulate; low H and high S will be slow-moving with little change in pressure



HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	2.40	7.3	3.09	7.5	Leith	3.32	5.9	3.50	6.0
Aberdeen	2.22	4.5	2.28	4.7	Liverpool	0.02	10.0	12.24	10.3
Avonmouth	8.21	14.6	8.47	14.3	Lowestoft	10.45	2.5	10.45	2.7
Belfast	-	-	12.18	3.8	Margate	0.51	5.0	1.26	5.0
Cardiff	8.20	12.9	8.41	12.7	Milford Haven	7.16	7.6	7.41	7.4
Devonport	6.57	5.8	7.26	5.6	Newquay	6.06	7.4	6.30	7.1
Dover	-	-	12.12	6.9	Oban	6.49	4.3	7.02	4.0
Dublin (N Wall)	0.22	4.2	12.35	4.5	Penzance	5.42	6.0	6.05	5.7
Falmouth	6.21	5.5	6.46	5.2	Portland	7.59	2.4	8.26	2.2
Greenock	1.30	3.5	1.48	3.9	Portsmouth	0.13	5.0	12.30	5.0
Harwich	0.29	4.2	12.57	4.3	Shoreham	0.09	6.7	12.29	6.7
Holyhead	11.23	6.2	11.53	5.8	Southampton	11.50	4.9	-	-
Hull (Albert D)	7.24	7.8	7.29	8.2	Swansea	7.30	10.2	7.55	10.0
Ilfracombe	7.08	10.1	7.32	9.8	Tees	4.46	5.7	4.59	5.8
King's Lynn	7.11	7.1	7.30	7.5	Walton-on-Naze	0.25	4.3	12.55	4.5

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HOURS OF DARKNESS

Sun rises: 7.53 am
Sun sets: 4.31 pm
Moon sets: 7.39 pm
Moon rises: 8.34 am

London 4.31 pm to 7.52 am
Bristol 4.41 pm to 8.02 am
Edinburgh 4.24 pm to 8.24 am
Manchester 4.31 pm to 8.09 am
Penzance 4.58 pm to 8.09 am

First quarter January 27

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TIMES SPORT

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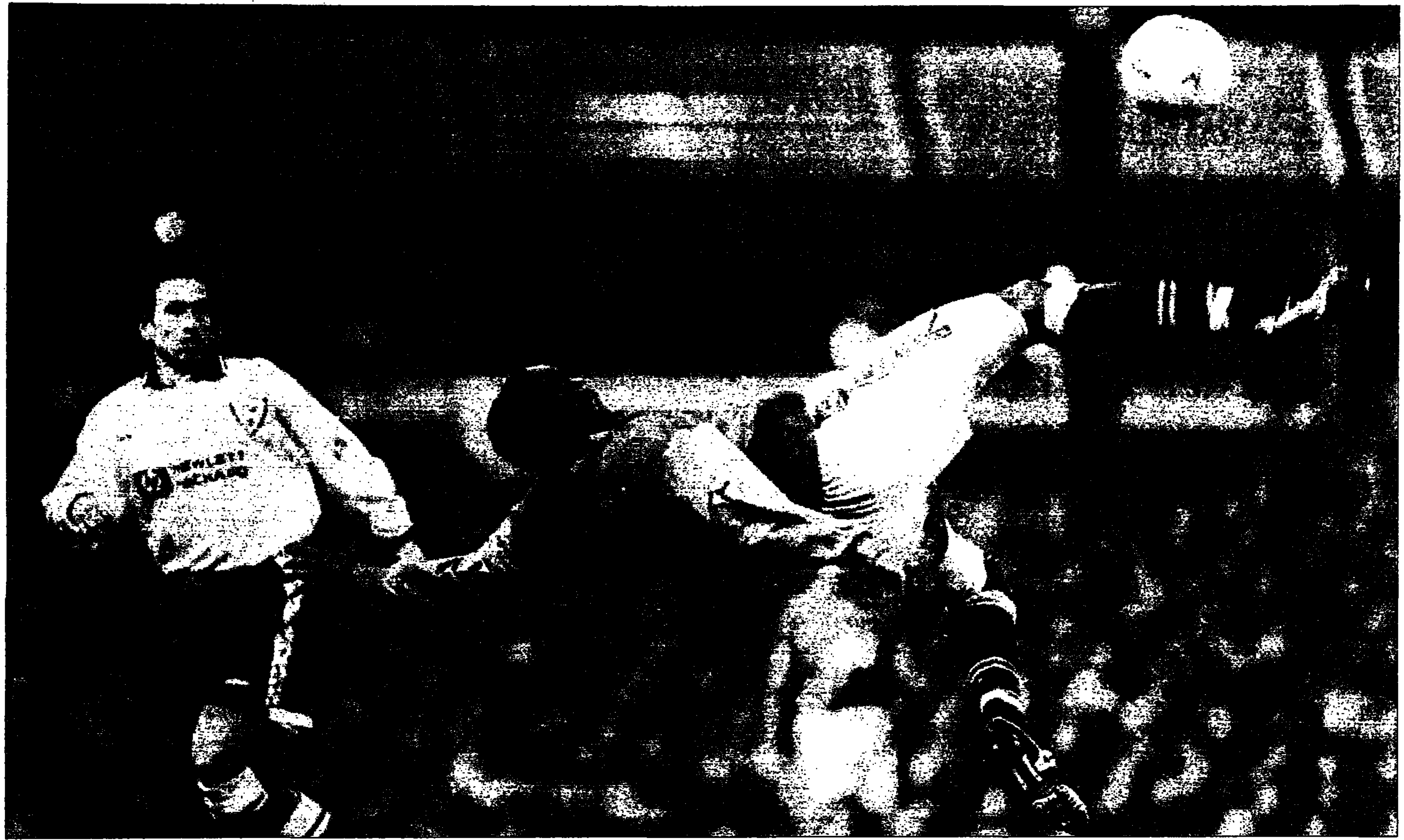


Yorke, barely back from playing for Trinidad and Tobago in Los Angeles, takes to the air again to put Tottenham's troubled defence under pressure at Villa Park yesterday. Photograph: David Jones

Tottenham miss the chance to go second in Premiership

Yorke announces return in style

Aston Villa 2
Tottenham Hotspur 1

BY PETER BALL

IT IS beginning to look as if Tottenham Hotspur have no head for heights. For the third time in recent weeks, they had the opportunity, yesterday, to move up to second place in the FA Carling Premiership and, with Armstrong and Sheringham for once firing blanks, for the third time, they blew it.

Instead, Dwight Yorke returned from playing for Trinidad and Tobago at the Concacaf Gold Cup in Los Angeles to score the winner 11 minutes from time and take Villa back up to fifth place. They have at least one game in hand on all the clubs above them and their rearranged fixture with Liverpool on Wednesday week is beginning to look significant.

Yesterday saw only Tottenham's second away defeat of the season. They played their part to the full in an enthralling game packed with all the qualities that English football supposedly lacks — fluid movement, sharp intelligence from attackers and defenders and moments of dazzling skill — with not a yellow card in sight, but, for all their efforts, by the end, they could have no complaints about the result. With Draper and Townsend becoming increasingly assertive as the game progressed and while Johnson, the floater in attack, continually popped up in the places that Tottenham did not want him to, Villa dominated the second period.

Sheringham's volley just before Yorke's goal was Tottenham's first serious threat after the interval, yet, instead of being a sign that the balance was shifting, it was their last gesture of defiance. Yorke promptly twisted past Edinburgh to fire a shot across Walker and inside the post and Villa had the three points within reach.

"Things are going right for me at the moment, the gaffer has given me the confidence," Yorke said. By comparison with the Tottenham pair, his eight goals in the Premiership is a small return, but yesterday his finish had a sureness that they could not match.

Armstrong and Sheringham have not had many blank days recently. After Armstrong's uncertain start to his career at White Hart Lane, their contribution has been the key to Tottenham's own recovery from their early season's struggles. Armstrong had been regarded then as an expensive flop; now, even at £4.5 million, he is beginning to look a bargain, the pair's 22 goals in the Premiership this season matching exactly the return that Klinsmann and Sheringham had made at the same stage last year.

Yesterday, perhaps Armstrong's best chance came too early, as he put a free header wide after Rosenthal's cross drifted beyond Southgate. From then on, with Southgate watching him closely and McGrath and Ehiogu in dominating form, Tottenham were second best, for all Sheringham's intelligence and the flickering runs of Fox. It was obvious why Villa have the best defensive record in the Premiership.

By contrast, Villa's failure to have the game won by the interval owed more to their own failings than any excellence in the Tottenham defence, well as Nethercott and Walker played. Milosevic, not for the first time this season, was the main culprit. "If we got a decent centre forward, we'd be top of the league," one anguished Villa supporter announced at half-time. "He should have had a hat-trick in ten minutes there."

That was a harsh judgment, but, unfortunately, of the three chances, two fell to Milosevic's weaker right foot and the other to his head. Thus, Tottenham survived, but at least Milosevic was there to miss the chances and was constantly involved. Yorke became stronger as the game wore on, like his side, but in the first half he looked at times as if he was jet-lagged.

Fortunately, there were few such problems behind him. Tottenham had the better of the early exchanges and, apart from Armstrong's miss, Southgate had to overhaul the striker as he nearly broke free and, from a corner, Sheringham saw a drive blocked on the line.

Initially, Villa had less to say for themselves, although they too had one early chance as Johnson popped up in a forward position for Walker to turn aside his fierce, angled drive. Johnson was again involved moments later, sending over a cross that Ehiogu met with a volley that Walker was happy to tip over the bar.

That was a prelude to Villa taking the lead in the 22nd minute. A free kick was half-cleared by Nethercott and fell for Yorke. His overhead kick hit a defender and dropped to McGrath, who drove it low through a crowd into the corner of the net for his first goal of the season.

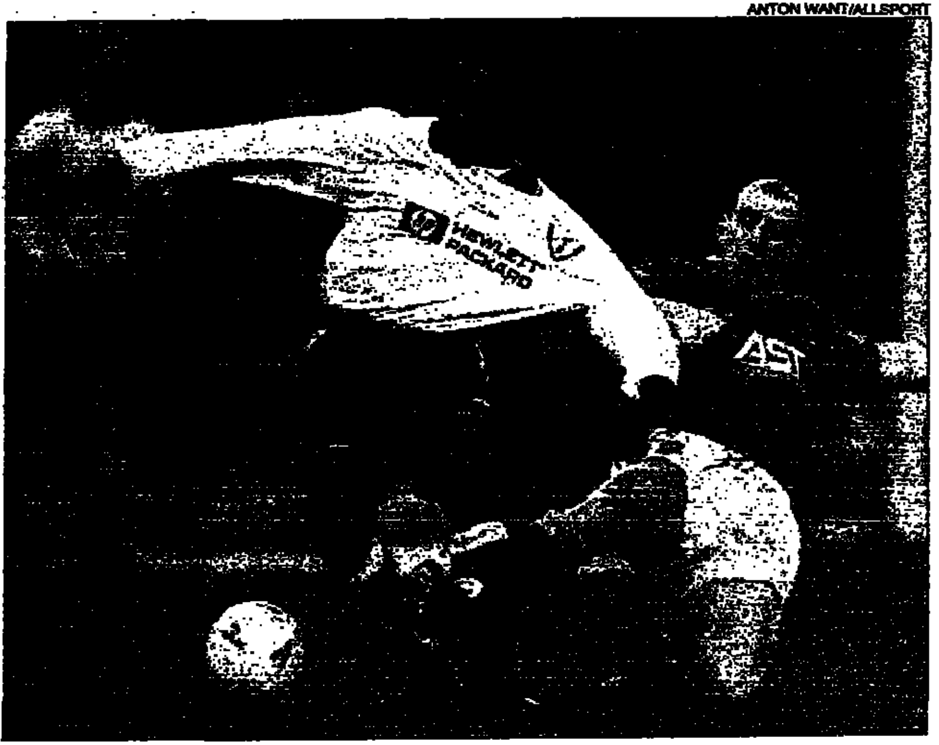
Now, Villa had to defend as Tottenham responded with purpose. Soon, an inter-passing movement between Caskey and Fox ended with Caskey's shot being deflected for a corner. From the kick, as the ball ricocheted off Southgate, Wright attempted to prevent a second corner, but his clearance fell to Fox, whose side-footed shot deflected off McGrath for the first goal scored against Bosnich this year.

Almost immediately, Tottenham came again and Bosnich had to make a good save from a Nethercott header. From then on, however, the game began to tilt further and further towards Villa. Johnson saw a volley go no more than a foot wide and then came Milosevic's trio of misses as he side-footed over a gaping net before Johnson found him twice — both times he failed to hit the target.

It was hardly to matter, as Yorke had the final word. "A year ago, we were battling against relegation and now we are in the top five," Yorke said. "We have games in hand, so who knows what could happen?"

ASTON VILLA (3-4-1-2): M Bosnich — U Ehiogu, P McGrath, G Southgate — G Charles, M Draper, A Townsend, A Wright — T Johnson — S Milosevic, D Yorke
TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR (4-4-2): I Walker — D Austin, S Nethercott, C Calderwood, J Edinburgh — R Fox, S Campbell, D Caskey, R Rosenthal — C Armstrong, E Sheringham
Referee: G Poll

ANTON WANT/ALLSPORT



Fox, left, struggles to wriggle free of the attentions of Wright, the Villa defender

Hearts break Rangers 26
Delusions at Chelsea 26
Anfield pair called up 26
Leeds fall foul of law 27

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Question of Beaumont mars BBC excellence

MATTHEW BOND

◆

TV ACTION REPLAY

If the panellists on BBC1's enjoyable *Five Nations Preview* on Friday night are to be believed, rugby union has come to the end of the beginning. What comes next should be welcomed and is, in any case, quite unstoppable. Just sign on the dotted line for a brighter and more lucrative future.

That, at least, was the view of Rob Andrew and Nick Farr-Jones, the Tweedledum and Tweedledee of the modern game, and one shared by Jonathan Davies, who was branded "the most famous code-breaker since Enigma" by the smooth-talking host, Eddie Butler. "Did you write this script?" Andrew asked. Butler denied all knowledge and went back to reading his Autocue.

Once these over-written formalities were over, however, the discussion flowed pleasantly enough. Butler would toss in a topic, the panel would chuck it around, and whenever it threatened to get boring, the producer would fade things quietly out. A quick break for an archive reminder of how the game used to be played, and it would start all over again.

With even Gavin Hastings and Brendan Mullin onside, albeit more guardedly, about the professional future, the debate could never be described as balanced, but despite the lack of red-faced representation from the grass roots (not to mention the four-hour running time that it would require), it was still the right programme at the right time, and made a refreshing change from the standard five reporters in five countries and the "could this be Ireland's year?" format. A good effort.

Together with the Will Carling interview on *Sportsnight* on Wednesday, the preview was a clear signal that the BBC will not willingly be parted from the five nations' championship, for which its contract expires at the end of next season.

Although the pictures for both games were provided by host broadcasters (FT2 at Parc des Princes and RTE at Lansdowne Road), and were thus beyond its control, other factors conspired to make this one of the best *Grandstands* of the year. The biggest help came from the time difference between France and the British Isles, which allowed the whole of France against England to be shown live, followed by live coverage of the second half of the encounter between Ireland and Scotland. Later rounds will not be so fortunate, and it will be back to one live game and recorded highlights of the other, which is a terrible waste of good sport. Whoever wins the contract for the five, six or even seven nations' championship, from 1998, these fixture overlaps look certain to go.

As ever, the unflappable Steve Rider rose to the big rugby occasion and coped with everything that the French crowd, the band and the public address system threw at him. Sensibly, the BBC limited him to one companion, the articulate Andrew. Andrew is made for television. The only problem is that he is paid to do something else, and it will be interesting to see, as his profile at Newcastle increases, how long he will be acceptable as the impartial observer. For the time being though, he is first class.

By contrast, Bill Beaumont, alongside Nigel Starmer-Smith in the commentary box, is summarising on borrowed time. Beaumont has always suffered from sounding a lot less interesting that he is, but it is not that which suggests he will be fortunate to survive until the end of the BBC's contract. It is simply the passing of time.

It is now 16 years since he led England to the grand slam. A whole generation of players have never seen him play and, more important, a whole generation of those that did — the good-looking, intelligent and eloquent class of Carling — have entered retirement. The perennial Bill McLaren may still be able to do the needful, but for Beaumont it is time for fresh challenges. Perhaps Henry Cooper could offer some advice.

Prospective world No 1 put out to grass by Tillstrom in Australian Open

Muster fails to match up to feats on clay

FROM STUART JONES, TENNIS CORRESPONDENT IN MELBOURNE

THOMAS MUSTER may yet gain compensation for being knocked out of the Australian Open yesterday. Through the vagaries of the complicated ranking system, he will officially become the world No 1 for the first time in his career should Andre Agassi lose tomorrow.

Muster's ascent to prime status — he would become only the thirteenth player to lead the rankings in the Open era — will be based almost wholly on his performances on clay, on which he collected his lone grand-slam title, the French Open, last year. Like his predecessor at Roland Garros, Sergei Bruguera, he has been disproportionately rewarded for his particular expertise.

Flinders Park results 31

His position, judged by a broader criteria, would plainly be false. The faster the conditions, the less justifiable his title would be. At least he intends this year to widen his horizons by competing on grass at Queen's and Halle, as well as at Wimbledon, where he has yet to record a victory. He is also soon to represent Austria in the Davis Cup on a South African lawn. "There is a lot of green stuff on my schedule," as he put it. Whenever the colour beneath his feet is anything other than red, however, he is vulnerable, and his deficiencies were exposed by Mikael Tillstrom.

But for the injuries that have hounded him throughout his career, Tillstrom, 23, would doubtless have fulfilled his potential as the brightest of the burgeoning Swedes. The runner-up in the US Open as a junior six years ago, he has only this week broken into the top 100. As long as he is healthy, he is surely there to stay.

His game was intelligently conceived and efficiently executed as he won 7-5, 4-6, 6-3, 6-2. He persistently brought Muster to where he feels least comfortable, the net, with delicate drop-shots. The policy would have been productive, even if the No 3 seed had not twisted his ankle in the previous round.

Tillstrom will have to change his strategy radically, though. His next opponent is Michael Chang, the fleet-footed No 5 seed who has expended little of his bottomless store of energy. In reaching the quarter-finals without dropping a set, he has spent a mere 7¼ hours on court.

Jim Courier has been toiling for almost twice as long. "Too many hours," he said, "not by choice, by necessity." In his second successive five-set duel, against Marcos Ondruska, he came through only because he belatedly cut down on his unforced errors, which still amounted to 73.

Courier concedes that he has not yet reached his best form. "By land or by sea," as he chose to describe his tortuous progress, "the important thing is to get there." His words were echoed by Agassi, the American compatriot he is to meet in the last eight.

The holder was also taken the full distance, by Jonas Bjorkman, the Swede who had eliminated Tim Henman, Britain's last survivor, and Todd Martin, the No 15 seed. Agassi fashioned no fewer than 24 break points and converted only seven, but three of them, crucially, came in the decisive set. "I wouldn't say that I'm at my peak," he said.

He regards the prospect of reclaiming his place at the top of the rankings as of no consequence. "If I don't win this tournament I don't want to be No 1," he said. "Anyway, I would fear playing Pete [Sampras] 99.9 per cent more than Muster."

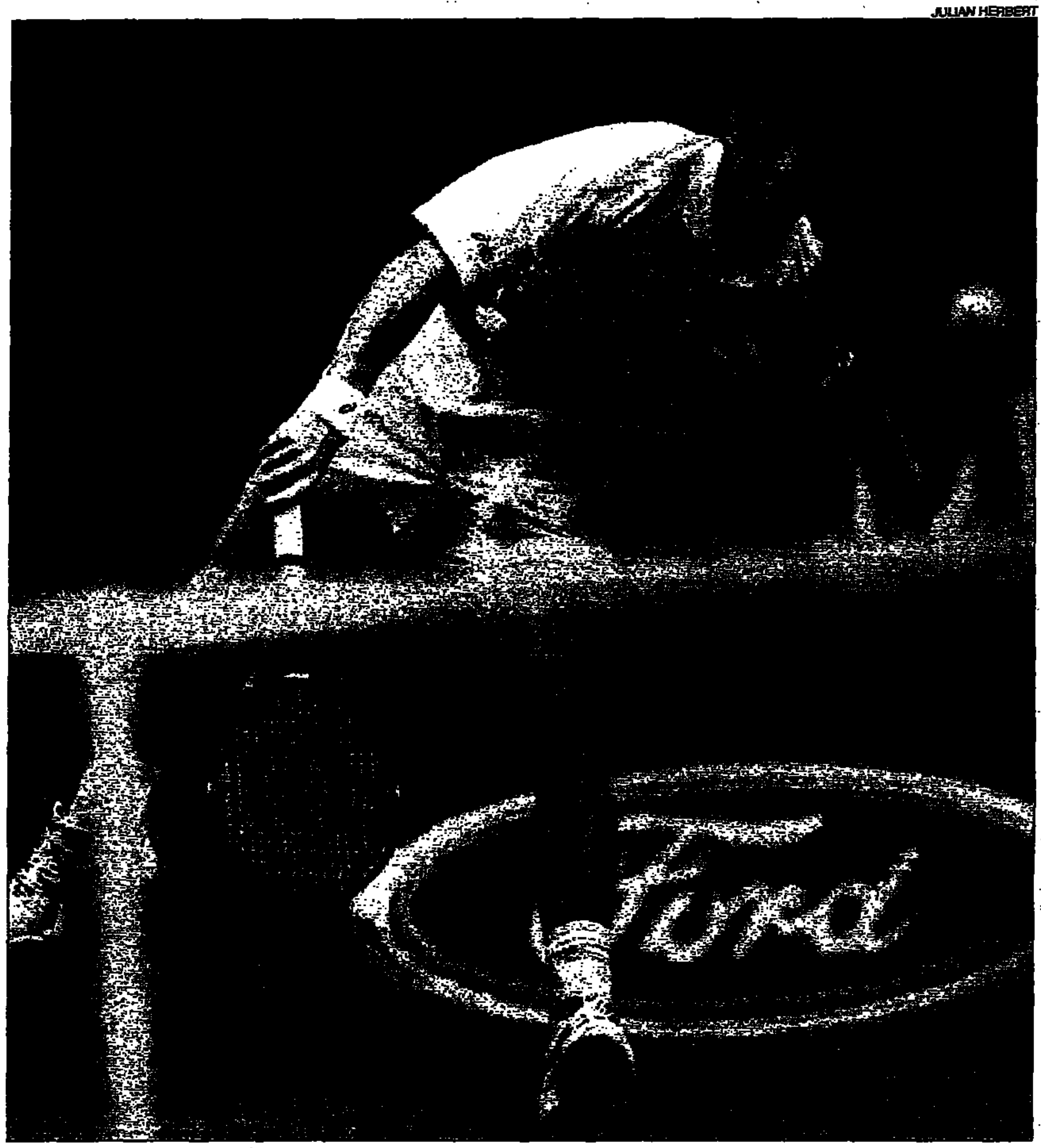
Courier agreed. "It is what the computer says and not what the players feel," he said when asked about the possibility of Muster overtaking both of his American countrymen. "Until he [Muster] proves that he can win a grand-slam [tournament] on a surface other than clay, he's not the No 1 in my mind."

The honour will doubtless remain beyond the scope of Goran Ivanisevic, a comparatively one-dimensional player prone to inhibiting self-doubt. When his ferocious service is returned, he tends to descend into such muddled confusion that the rest of his game disintegrates.

Such was the case, embarrassingly, against Renzo Furlan. Instead of profiting from Sampras's astonishingly comprehensive defeat by Mark Philippoussis, which opened up the top half of the draw for him, Ivanisevic was reduced characteristically to shrugging his shoulders and resigning himself to his fate. A third of his 66 needless mistakes were committed in the fourth and conclusive set.

"He [Furlan] played nothing special," the No 10 seed said. "I was rushing too much, going for winners from the back like an idiot, and I couldn't put in the first serve. I can't explain why. It's all my fault." As soon as pressure is imposed, he habitually loses his competitive edge.

So does Gabriela Sabatini. The No 6 seed, she threw in ten double faults in submitting in straight sets. "My serve wasn't working," she said. Chanda Rubin, the beneficiary, went through, and meets Arantxa Sánchez Vicario. In another quarter-final, Monica Seles, the top seed, takes on Iva Majoli.



JULIAN HERBERT

Tillstrom takes off on his way to victory over Muster yesterday and a place in the quarter-finals

Parrott calls tune after tense finish

JOHN PARROTT, the former world snooker champion, yesterday clinched a 37-minute final frame to beat Ken Doherty 5-3 and move into contention for a play-off place in the Dr Martens European League. Parrott also managed a break of 131 in the third frame to equal Stephen Hendry's effort on Saturday and give himself a chance to share the £5,000 prize for the tournament's top break.

Doherty took the first frame with a break of 103 and an effort of 107 later gave him the seventh before Parrott clinched the last of the match 78-59 thanks to a break of 30 that lifted him to third place in the league table.

Doherty, from Ireland, who at present lies sixth of the seven players competing in Irthlingborough, Northamptonshire, cannot yet be discounted, however, as none of the four play-off berths have yet been secured.

☐ Noppadon Noppachorn, of Thailand, the 1991 world amateur champion, coasted into the last 96 of the Embassy World Championship by trouncing Steve Archer, of London, 10-0.

Gooch regains title

SPEED SKATING: Nick Gooch, of Great Britain, has regained his European short-track speed-skating championship, a year after losing it to Mirko Vuillermin, of Italy. Gooch finished joint-first alongside Michele Antonioli, another Italian, and will share the title after the event in Oberstorf, Germany, over the weekend.

Matt Jasper, also of Britain, came third, two points behind, while Debbie Palmer was the highest-placed Briton in the women's event in third place. Gooch's success comes a fortnight after winning the British championship in Guildford, which was only his second competition since a skating accident in Canada last October.

Sievinen lowers mark

SWIMMING: Jani Sievinen, right, of Finland, took more than a second off his 400 metres individual medley short-course world record on Saturday, covering the distance in 4min 06.03sec at the Finnish championships in Lappeenranta. The time was 1.07sec faster than his previous mark. Sievinen, 21, also holds the 200 metres long-course world record with a time of 1min 58.16sec.

Steelers stretch lead

ICE HOCKEY: With a 10-1 win over Milton Keynes Kings, Sheffield Steelers increased their lead over Cardiff Devils at the top of the British League premier division to two points. The Devils were surprisingly held to a 3-3 draw by the rapidly-improving Newcastle Warriors, who are now level with Slough Jets at the bottom of the table. Nottingham Panthers maintained their hold on third place with an easy away win over Slough Jets. Blackburn Hawks moved to within four points of Manchester Storm in the first division, but they have played a game more.

Lawson claim

SPORT ADMINISTRATION: Peter Lawson, the former general secretary of the Central Council of Physical Recreation (CCPR), has brought a claim for compensation for unfair dismissal. He was dismissed by the council last year for "gross misconduct" after 27 years' service. In a statement issued through his solicitors, Lawson said: "I believe I am the victim of a political coup and that the internal investigation into alleged conflicts of interest was unfair, inappropriate and damaging to my reputation and that of others associated with the CCPR."

Running into trouble

ATHLETICS: Peter DeVocht, of Belgium, was the clear winner of the Ho Chi Minh City marathon yesterday, when runners set off before dawn to avoid sweltering temperatures but could not avoid traffic. Hugh Jones, right, of Great Britain, who was fifth, complained that poor traffic and crowd control had hindered runners. "I didn't realise marathon running was a contact sport," he said.

France break through

TABLE TENNIS: France won the European Nations Cup at Bayreuth, Germany, yesterday with a 3-1 victory over the host nation. Jean-Philippe Gatien, the former world champion, was undefeated throughout the three-day tournament and France, who won the cup for the first time, owed almost everything to him as Patrick Chila lost several games. England's three 3-0 defeats, by Sweden, Germany and Austria, were suffered by the youngest national side for ten years, Andrew Eden, Jonathan Taylor and Alex Perry.

Durham reach last four

BOWLS: Durham, who have won the Liberty Trophy five times, will play Cornwall in the semi-finals on February 10 after a 119-97 victory over Northamptonshire at Newark. Durham finished ahead on the rinks skipped by John Thurlbeck (29-6), John Leeman (18-16) and Billy Condron (26-14). Wiltshire and Essex are the other semi-finalists.

☐ Record ticket sales have been reported for the Churchill Insurance world indoor championship at the Guild Hall, Preston, next month.

Amiez reaps his reward

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

SEBASTIEN AMIEZ, of France, one of this season's most consistent skiers, posted his first World Cup victory in a men's slalom at Veysonnaz, Switzerland, yesterday in a time of 1min 38.79sec.

Amiez was fourth after the first run in 49.82 seconds but made up the deficit in the second heat with a time of 48.97.

Rene Mlekuz, of Slovenia, finished second with Thomas Sykora, of Austria, who was the joint leader after the first run, third.

Amiez closed the gap in the standings on the slalom leader and defending overall World Cup champion, Alberto Tomba, who crashed through a flag and was eliminated in the first run. Tomba now has 440 points in the standings and Amiez 434.

The Frenchman's victory was the high point of his fine season, in which he finished fifth in Flachau and fourth in Kitzbühl earlier this month, and second in Vail in November.

Bruno Kernen, of Switzerland, who won both the downhills on Friday and Saturday, Friday's victory being the first of his career, was eliminated in the second run yesterday and so lost his chance of picking up valuable points in the combined.

Anita Wachter, from Austria, won a women's giant slalom in Cortina D'Ampezzo, Italy, yesterday and took the lead in the overall World Cup standings from Martina Ertl, of Germany, who missed a gate.

Wachter was only third fastest in the first leg but made no mistakes on an icy second run for a combined time of 2min 37.74sec.

On Saturday, Isolde Kostner became the first Italian woman to win a World Cup downhill in Italy in almost 29 years. Kostner finished in 1min 28.93sec.

Results, page 31

DISCOVERY DATA: DEEPEST SUBMARINE DIVE: USS SEACLIFF: 20,000FT

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Hayles sets pace to seal top slot

BY PETER BRYAN

ROB HAYLES was again the powerhouse in the third round of the Five Cities track league at the Manchester velodrome, leading his London squad to victory and regaining top place overall by winning two events.

His from-the-gun style in the 8km scratch race set the pace but he was soon joined by three chasers and the quartet quickly lapped the field, with Hayles winning at an average speed of 50kph from Bryan Steel, of Birmingham.

Hayles, again forcing the pace, also won the "devil" (devil take the hindmost) but his luck ran out in the 3,000 metres team pursuit when Chris Ball and Neil Hoban, his colleagues, fell and the London riders were eliminated.

London lead the series with 87 points from Manchester (60) and Edinburgh (49) but, with each team missing one round of the competition's five, Manchester should make ground on Saturday in London's absence. Hayles is not available for the final round on February 3 — he is riding in the Six Hours of San Sebastian — which will add to pressure on his team.

Towers in line for more silverware

BY NICHOLAS HARLING

LOOKING every bit Budweiser League champions elect and possible National Cup winners too, London Towers have followed up their 7-Up Trophy triumph with further evidence that they can clean up this season's basketball honours.

The 7-Up Trophy was the first to come London's way in their 23-year history. More silverware may clearly follow. "They've got such a deep bench but they just wear you down and wear you down," was the verdict of Peter Scantlebury, the England captain, after suffering the misfortune of meeting Kevin Cadle's buoyant squad twice in four days.

The Towers followed up Wednesday's Cup quarter-final success by beating Thames Valley Tigers again 79-66 before a full house at Bracknell on Saturday. Scantlebury's personal battle with his England team-mate, Steve Bucknall, ended all-square, each scoring 19 points.

The league game followed a similar pattern to the cup-tie. Down by 11 points, the Tigers came back to trail by only one before Bucknall made up for a subdued first half to score the points and provide the passes from which Neville Austin and the American pair of Danny Lewis and Tony Windless made victory certain.

Birmingham Bullets would have been title contenders but for a recent slump which ended with their surprisingly comfortable midweek victory over the Leopards. Building on that good work, the Bullets went to Worthing Bears and won 100-89, in spite of Colin Irish's 36 points for the home side and Alan Cunningham's contribution of 21. Between them, Tony Dorsey (33) and Nigel Lloyd (32) were deserved match-winners for the Bullets.

Like the Bullets, Manchester Giants have also emerged from a bleak spell. Their third successive league win, by 90-79, came at the expense of Derby Storm and with the help of 21 points from Mark Robinson in front of a 6,500 crowd in the Nynex Arena.

Another club enjoying a change of fortunes are Hemel Hempstead Royals. The Hertfordshire club is still bottom but may not be so for long after their 79-64 victory at Leicester City Riders, which came about thanks mainly to contributions of 22 points from Ray Schultz and 20 from Jason Siemon.

THE TIMES
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England's slender chances reduced by Reeve's omission

Alan Lee argues that the captain of Warwickshire would have been a force in the World Cup

IT HAS long been a favourite theme of Michael Atherton that the best Test cricketers will, by definition, also excel at the one-day game. He has had personal cause to belabour this issue and its basic premise is sound. What it overlooks is the need to acknowledge that the reverse is untrue, that the best exponents of limited overs cricket are not necessarily those equipped for the longer game.

Neil Fairbrother is a classic example of the rare breed whose skills are peculiarly appropriate to overcoming the negativity of one-day tactics. He bats by angling the ball into gaps that do not exist in Test cricket, and no one does it better. Rightly, indeed unarguably, his name appeared last night among the final England selection of 14 for the World Cup, which begins in only three weeks.

Dermot Reeve is another of such gifts, an improviser and innovator whose game might *have been created for breaking* down the barriers of the limited-overs mentality. Shamefully, if predictably, he has been omitted. England's prospects of winning the Cup for the first time may not be high, but they have declined further with this rejection of a man whose suitability for the task at hand is matched only by his self-motivation.

Reeve arrived in South Africa shortly after Christmas, flattered on two counts. He was about to be appointed an OBE, striking recognition of his leadership of Warwickshire, while his role in the protracted one-day series recognised his candidature for the World Cup. If anyone had told him he must settle for only one honour, I suspect he *would have chosen the latter.*

He will be 33 in April and there are parts of his body that complain increasingly. He knows he will not play much longer, maybe not beyond one more county season, but he has always analysed his ability and, throughout last year, he felt sure that he would do justice to one more World Cup. And so he should have done.

Most of the England selection is logical, if unremarkable. Jack Russell thoroughly deserves his place — would *Australia ever consider* leaving Ian Healy out of their one-day side? — and the preference for Robin Smith over Mark Ramprakash was eventually inevitable. But if only one all-rounder was to be included, *then it should have been Reeve* and not Craig White.

There was a general air of bewilderment when White was summoned to South Africa among the new year reinforcements. Surely, it could not wholly be explained by his being the chairman's blind spot, a favourite of Raymond Illingworth in a way that Reeve and Angus Fraser (another who will be feeling aggrieved today) have never been?

White had a moderate A-team tour of Pakistan, on which his bowling was innocuous. Why, then, was he being considered for a return to that country, where England will play all but one of their group games? Yet, ever since his arrival, White has been promoted in a way that permitted no doubt over his inclusion in the 14. Reeve, by contrast, was picked for only two of the seven internationals, scarcely time for him to shake off the rust of three months without cricket and show himself in true colours.

The errors of his omission are manifold. They include the adaptability of his cricket, force of personality and the value of his tactical expertise. *White, of course, can match* none of these but, even if one focuses exclusively on cricketing ability, he falls short of Reeve's potential, given the venues at which England will play.

The pitches in India and Pakistan will be slow and low, rather like East London and Port Elizabeth where they have just concluded their wearying reprise around South Africa. White, an uncomplicated cricketer, flourishes on quicker pitches, where he can drive through the line and fire the ball just short of a length. Reeve is at his best when the surface is sluggish. He relishes batting against spin, which will have more impact on the coming competition than England seem to imagine, and *when bowling he will make* the batsman's job harder by taking the pace off the ball.

All this has been sacrificed, but so too has a man who wanted this as the pinnacle of his career, a character who would revel in the subcontinent and a cricket brain that, properly used — as a member of the tactical inner circle — could have revitalised England's moribund one-day game.

It is a lot to lose through one selection. One must hope it is not too much.

ENGLAND WORLD CUP SQUAD

M A Atherton (Lancashire, captain)
A J Stewart (Surrey)
G A Hick (Worcestershire)
G P Thorpe (Surrey)
R A Smith (Hampshire)
N H Fairbrother (Lancashire)
R C Russell (Gloucestershire)
C A White (Yorkshire)
R K Illingworth (Worcestershire)
N K M Smith (Warwickshire)
D G Cork (Derbyshire)
D Gough (Yorkshire)
P J Martin (Lancashire)
P A J DeFreitas (Derbyshire)

South Africa achieve 6-1 drubbing in one-day international series

Destruction complete after final humiliation

FROM SIMON WILDE IN PORT ELIZABETH

PORT ELIZABETH (South Africa won toss): South Africa beat England by 64 runs

WHEN England's cricketers first met Nelson Mandela, at Soweto last October, South Africa's president greeted Devon Malcolm, the fast bowler who famously took nine wickets for 57 runs at the Oval in 1994, with the words: "I know you, you are the destroyer."

Yesterday, as England's tour closed on a beautiful sunlit evening at St George's Park, with Mandela making the presentations to the South Africa and England teams at a ceremony brightened by flags and music, he well might have said to Michael Atherton and his players: "I know you, you are the destroyed."

Destroyed England certainly were — at Cape Town, to decide the Test series, and all over the republic in the limited-overs series which had ended minutes earlier with South Africa's sixth and arguably easiest win of the seven-match series.

England's batting again let them down miserably. The task of scoring 219 to win here should not have taxed them on a slow but true batting surface but for the third match in a row they could not get beyond a total of 185. They were all out for 154 and were never in contention after Robin Smith and Neil Fairbrother fell to successive deliveries from McMillan to leave them teetering on 70 for four.

Hick and Thorpe, England's two most reliable run-gatherers of the series, put on 43 but both were bowled playing loose strokes. Russell, for once, failed and the tail — as so often on this tour — had little to offer. At least Cork struck a bright 21, the highest one-day score of his England career, as the match drew to a quiet close.

It was de Villiers who administered the *coup de grâce*, dismissing Cork, Martin and Gough in successive overs and setting the seal on his inclusion in South Africa's World Cup party. Appearing completely recovered from his recent injury, he bowled impressively and adds an extra dimension to his team's already formidable attack.

Atherton would dearly like to be able to throw the ball to such a disciplined and lively operator. With the exception of their sloppy display at Verwoerdburg, England's bowlers have, within their limitations, stuck to their task fairly well in this series and yesterday they fought commendably to peg South Africa back to a score of 218 for nine.

The pick of the bowlers was Gough, whose reinvigoration has been one of the few encouraging features for England in the past fortnight, along with the batting of Thorpe and Russell. Gough took four wickets for 33, including a spell of three in nine balls which ruined South Africa's push for late runs.

Moreover, he plucked out the wickets of Symcox and de Villiers with fast inswinging yorkers, a delivery which was once his trademark but had deserted him. His is now bowling as well as at any time since he shone in Australia a year ago and his pleasure in playing the game has returned.

At 167 for three in the fortieth over, South Africa were threatening to amass over 250. Cronje, having played at something like his best for 60 — though he was badly dropped by Smith on 37 — then holed out on the cover boundary and Kallis was the victim of a needless run-out. McMillan quickly followed.

Kuiper, handicapped by a damaged hamstring and batting for most of the time with a runner, stayed until the end for an unbeaten 61 from 67 balls.

Kuiper and Palframan, the wicketkeeper, who made his international debut, had come in for Rhodes and Richardson, both of whom were injured during the match in East London. Richardson, who has a broken finger, will miss the World Cup.

Atherton was out in the fourth over of the England innings for his fourth low score in succession, caught at slip off a sharp ball from Pollock to conclude a personally subdued and unhappy end to the tour. During the interval a ten-minute pre-recorded interview with the England captain was broadcast on the SABC network which showed him as a more rounded and personable character than the Captain Grumpy image that is familiar to the South African public.

Fittingly, St George's Park was filled to capacity for the tour's finale, taking the total attendances for the seven matches to over 140,000. The man of the match was Kuiper, the man of the series Pollock and the South Africa team took its earnings during the tour to almost one million rand (about £200,000).

There were few scraps left on the table for England's weary soldiers.

GRAHAM MORRIS

Palframan, South Africa's new wicketkeeper, watches as Hick is bowled attempting a forcing stroke off Symcox

SCOREBOARD FROM PORT ELIZABETH

SOUTH AFRICA

A C Hudson c Thorpe b White (114min, 77 balls, 4 fours)	44
†S J Palframan c Russell b Martin (25min, 16 balls, 2 fours)	10
G Kirsten c Russell b Gough (33min, 29 balls, 2 fours)	17
*W J Cronje c Hick b Martin (99min, 74 balls, 4 fours)	60
A P Kuiper not out (99min, 66 balls, 5 fours)	61
J H Kallis run out (Thorpe/Russell) (8min, 9 balls)	2
B M McMillan b White (19min, 13 balls)	4
S M Pollock c Thorpe b Gough (4min, 3 balls)	0
P L Symcox b Gough (10min, 10 balls, 1 four)	7
P S de Villiers b Gough (1min, 1 ball)	0
P R Adams not out (7min, 2 balls)	0
Extras (b 1, lb 7, w 5)	13
Total (9 wkts, 50 overs, 214min)	218

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-30 (Hudson 14), 2-81 (Hudson 24), 3-123 (Cronje 41), 4-167 (Kuiper 25), 5-172 (Kuiper 28), 6-195 (Kuiper 46), 7-196 (Kuiper 47), 8-206 (Kuiper 50), 9-206 (Kuiper 50)

BOWLING: Cork 10-0-53-0 (nb 1, w 2, 3-0-12-0, 3-0-16-0, 2-0-9-0, 2-0-16-0); Martin 9-0-47-2 (w 2: 4-0-24-1, 5-0-23-1). Gough 10-0-33-4 (6-0-19-1, 2-0-8-0, 2-0-6-3), Illingworth 10-1-31-0 (w 1, one spell): Hick 4-0-19-0 (one spell), White 7-0-27-2 (4-0-14-1, 3-0-13-1).

ENGLAND

*M A Atherton c McMillan b Pollock (11min, 7 balls)	3
C White c sub (Donald) b De Villiers (40min, 34 balls, 1 six)	20
R A Smith c Palframan b McMillan (68min, 44 balls, 1 four)	21
G A Hick b Symcox (85min, 64 balls, 2 fours)	43
N H Fairbrother b McMillan (1min, 1 ball)	0
G P Thorpe b Adams (55min, 53 balls, 1 four)	21
†R C Russell c McMillan b Symcox (21min, 16 balls)	3
D G Cork lbw b De Villiers (35min, 37 balls, 1 four)	21
P J Martin c Symcox b De Villiers (17min, 9 balls)	6
D Gough b De Villiers (14min, 8 balls)	4
R K Illingworth not out (5min, 6 balls)	2
Extras (b 1, lb 5, w 2, nb 2)	10
Total (46.1 overs, 182min)	154

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-5 (White 2), 2-35 (Smith 12): 3-70 (Hick 21), 4-70 (Hick 21), 5-113 (Thorpe 18), 6-118 (Russell 1), 7-124 (Cork 4), 8-147 (Cork 20), 9-151 (Gough 3)

BOWLING: De Villiers 9.1-1-32-4 (6-1-19-1, 3.1-0-13-3); Pollock 6-1-17-1 (one spell); Cronje 4-0-17-0 (one spell): McMillan 8-0-29-2 (nb 2, one spell), Symcox 10-0-31-2 (w 1: one spell), Adams 9-1-22-1 (w 1, one spell)

Match award: A P Kuiper (Adjudicator K S Ewan). Series award: S M Pollock.

Umpires: R E Koertzen and C J Mitchley. Third umpire: W Diedricks. Referee: C W Smith (West Indies).

SERIES DETAILS (South Africa won 6-1)

Jan 9 (Cape Town): South Africa won by 6 runs

Jan 11 (Bloemfontein): England won by 5 wkts.

Jan 13 (Johannesburg): South Africa won by 3 wkts

Jan 14 (Pretoria): South Africa won by 7 wkts.

Jan 17 (Durban): South Africa won by 5 wkts.

Jan 19 (East London): South Africa won by 14 runs

☐ *Compiled by Bill Frindall*

Warne facing dilemma over participation in World Cup

BY JOHN GOODBODY

SHANE WARNE, the Australia leg-spin bowler, yesterday said that he may withdraw from the World Cup next month because he was worried for his safety after receiving threatening letters over the Salim Malik bribery allegations.

As the New Zealand team manager also sought assurances about security plans for the World Cup in Pakistan, India and Sri Lanka, Warne was concerned that "a few hotheads might do something really nasty."

Three Australia cricketers, Warne, Tim May and Mark Waugh, alleged that Salim, the former Pakistan captain, had tried to bribe them during a tour in October 1994. Salim was cleared by an internal judicial inquiry after Australia officials refused to allow the three players to fly to Pakistan to testify.

Warne said: "Even on a normal tour to Pakistan, visiting players have rocks and firecrackers thrown at them. Once I am out on the field, I am open to a crazy act and there is not much anyone can do. Believe me, it scares me."

He said that he faced the most difficult decision of his career. "However, if I decide to go, I will be 100 per cent committed."

Australia's 14-man World Cup squad will be named tomorrow and the players will then hold a meeting to discuss all aspects of the World Cup. Mark Taylor, the captain, said: "I want to go. We all want to go because it is the World Cup and it only comes round every four years. Not to go would be a major incident and that is the last thing any of us would want, including me, because it is a chance to win a World Cup and that is something we would like. Not to participate would be a huge blow to everyone, especially after the last 12 months we have had."

Graham Halbish, the Australian Cricket Board chief executive, and Denis Rogers, the chairman, arrived back last week from a fact-finding mission to the World Cup venues. They have told the players they will have bodyguards for 24 hours a day and extra protection during the six-week tournament.

Taylor said: "At this stage, there is no problem but we would just like to get everyone together to get their views and see if there is a problem. Warney has come out and said he is a bit worried, so it would be nice to have the chance to air our views and see what the full story is."

In Sri Lanka, where Australia open their World Cup campaign on February 17, a state of emergency is in force after the long-running civil war between the Government and Tamil separatists.

In New Zealand, Glenn Alabaster, the team manager, said he had concerns about what could happen if something did go wrong.

He said: "What will happen to the whole World Cup if some player were killed or a bomb went off and injured somebody? What would happen if Sri Lanka's civil war escalated? We need to know if there are any contingency plans in place."

The New Zealand team is well aware of the dangers of travelling to Sri Lanka, where a bomb went off outside the team hotel in 1992. Five of that team are likely to be included in the party for the forthcoming tournament, although Alabaster said none of them had voiced any concern about the trip.

Warne: voiced his fears

South Africa's young players will lend their enthusiasm to the World Cup bid. In the 14-man party announced last night, Paul Adams, 19, Jacques Kallis, 20, and Shaun Pollock, 22, are all included. Dave Richardson, who broke a finger in the sixth one-day international against England on Friday, loses his place to Steve Palframan.

SOUTH AFRICA SQUAD: W J Cronje (captain), C R Matthews, P R Adams, D J Cullinan, P S de Villiers, A A Donald, A C Hudson, J H Kallis, G Kirsten, B M McMillan, S J Palframan, S M Pollock, J N Rhodes, P L Symcox.

Zimbabwe lose Houghton

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

DAVID HOUGHTON, the Zimbabwe batsman, is out of the World Cup next month after breaking a bone in his foot while making a century against New Zealand in Auckland yesterday.

Houghton, 38, suffered the injury when he was hit by a ball from the New Zealand pace bowler, Robert Kennedy. He was on 55 at the time but batted on to make an unbeaten 104 as Zimbabwe reached 231 for seven in reply to New Zealand's 251 on the second day of the second Test at Eden Park.

Houghton went straight to hospital for X-rays after reaching his fourth Test century and will be in a half-plaster for a few days until the swelling goes down, after which a full plaster will be put on his foot.

He will retire hurt in the first innings but has not ruled out batting again if needed. "If push comes to shove, I might be available to bat in the second innings — we'll see what happens," Houghton said. "It's going to take six to eight weeks to heal properly, so I'm out of the World Cup, I'm on my way home."

Houghton, who batted with a runner after being hit, patiently accumulated his runs over five hours, spending 19 minutes on 99 before reaching his century shortly before the close.

Zimbabwe quickly claimed the last two New Zealand wickets for the addition of only five runs in the morning. Zimbabwe made a poor start when they slumped to 50 for three with Grant Flower, Stuart Carlisle and Guy Whittall all going before lunch. Andy Flower, the captain, and Houghton added 88 for the fourth wicket, with Flower reaching 1,000 runs in Test cricket before departing for 35. Geoff Allott, the New Zealand left-arm seam bowler, finished with three for 45.

AUCKLAND SCOREBOARD

NEW ZEALAND: First Innings

C J Spearman c G W Flower b B Strang	42
R G Twose c A Flower b Brandes	18
S P Fleming c Carlisle b Whittall	84
A C Parore c A Flower b B Strang	0
N J Astle c and b Brandes	14
C L Cairns c and b P A Strang	57
*†L K Germon c A Flower b Streak	25
D N Patel not out	7
G R Larsen lbw b Streak	0
R J Kennedy c Campbell b Streak	0
G I Allott c and b B Strang	0
Extras (lb 3, nb 1)	4
Total	251

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-50, 2-78, 3-86, 4-117, 5-215, 6-232, 7-244, 8-248.

BOWLING: Streak 22-9-53-3; Brandes 18-3-69-2; B Strang 31.3-8-84-3; P A Strang 12-2-29-1; Whittall 12-4-36-1

ZIMBABWE: First Innings

G W Flower lbw b Allott	5
S V Carlisle c Astle b Kennedy	12
G J Whittall c Germon b Cairns	27
D L Houghton not out	104
*†A Flower lbw b Allott	35
A D R Campbell lbw b Allott	17
C J Wishart b Larsen	7
H H Streak b Cairns	2
P A Strang not out	5
Extras (b 1, lb 8, nb 6, w 2)	17
Total (7 wkts)	231

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-5, 2-38, 3-50, 4-138, 5-196, 6-217, 7-212.

BOWLING: Cairns 22-8-60-2; Allott 18-5-45-3; Kennedy 16-3-53-1; Patel 8-0-39-0; Larsen 17-7-22-1; Astle 3-1-3-0

Players seek review of censorship rules

ENGLAND'S cricketers are to seek a meeting with the Test and County Cricket Board (TCCB) about the "imbalance" of rules that allows officials to criticise players with impunity but not vice versa (John Goodbody writes).

As the Devon Malcolm affair rumbles on, the Professional Cricketers' Association (PCA) will today issue a statement, urging a new look at the regulations.

David Graveney, its secretary, said: "We are not holding pistols to the head of the TCCB but, after the World Cup, we would like to discuss the issue with the board. Media coverage has changed over the last five years."

I understand that Malcolm is not specifically mentioned in the statement, although the issue has been brought to a head by the fast bowler's outspoken criticism of Ray Illingworth, the England manager, in the *Daily Express* last week. The Derbyshire player faces a possible fine or suspension because players are forbidden by their contracts from commenting, until well after the event, on any matters relating to tours, unless their comments are first cleared by the TCCB. Clearance was not sought in this instance.

During the South African tour, Illingworth himself was quoted as saying: "Devon has not got a cricket brain. That's the problem."

Graveney said that he was not resigning as a Test selector because of any possible conflict of interests. "The word resignation is inappropriate," he said. His name would have to be put forward by a county when the new selection panel for this summer is considered. It would then be up to the PCA executive committee to decide in March whether to permit its professional secretary to serve in the post.

Ranatunga to meet referee

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

IN THE aftermath of a bad-tempered World Series Cup game in Sydney on Saturday, which Australia won by eight runs to take the best-of-three final by a 2-0 margin, Sri Lanka officials are to meet Graham Dowling, the International Cricket Council (ICC) match referee, in an attempt to mend relations.

Their captain, Arjuna Ranatunga, said the Sri Lankans were determined to "iron out" a number of issues. "There were a lot of incidents and unnecessary things that happened but I can't tell you what occurred on the field," Ranatunga said, referring to a number of heated exchanges between the players as tension mounted.

"It was very frustrating at times and we want to speak to the match referee about it rather than having a controversy now. We all know we've had enough controversies on this tour," he said.

Ranatunga was clearly furious at initially being refused a runner by the Australian umpire, Steve Randell. The batsman then became involved in a disagreement with the wicketkeeper, Ian Healy.

Earlier in the Sri Lankan innings, Randell asked Australia's captain, Mark Taylor, to speak to Glenn McGrath after the fast bowler had blocked the path of opening batsman Sanath Jayasuriya as he ran between the wickets.

The tension between the two sides became evident at the award ceremony when Taylor approached several Sri Lanka players to shake hands, only to be largely ignored.

Set a revised target of 168 from 25 overs after a storm, Sri Lanka finished at 159 for eight. With 17 runs needed off the last over, bowled by Shane Warne, Chaminda Vaas and Manjula Munasinghe were unable to find the boundaries they needed.

SYDNEY SCOREBOARD

AUSTRALIA

M E Waugh c and b Kalpage	73
*M A Taylor c Kaluwitharana b Kalpage	82
R T Ponting c Vaas b Dharmasena	17
S R Waugh c Kalpage b Dharmasena	2
S G Law b Vaas	21
M G Bevan not out	32
†I A Healy not out	40
Extras (w 1, lb 5)	6
Total (5 wkts, 50 overs)	273

P R Reiffel, S K Warne, C J McDermott, G D McGrath.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-135, 2-170, 3-176, 5-184, 6-210.

BOWLING: Vaas 10-1-47-1; Pushpakumara 8-1-39-0; Munasinghe 4-0-33-0; Dharmasena 10-0-45-2; Kalpage 10-0-47-2; Jayasuriya 8-0-57-0.

SRI LANKA

S T Jayasuriya c McGrath b Warne	30
†R S Kaluwitharana lbw b McGrath	0
P A de Silva c Reiffel b M E Waugh	6
A P Gurusinha c Warne b Reiffel	24
*A Ranatunga c Law b Warne	41
R S Kalpage c Taylor b McDermott	9
H P Tillekeratne run out	25
H D P K Dharmasena c S R Waugh b Warne	7
M S Munasinghe not out	3
W P U J C Vaas not out	8
Extras (w 3, lb 3)	6
Total (8 wkts, 25 overs)	159

K R Pushpakumara did not bat

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-1, 2-22, 3-49, 4-66, 5-87, 6-135, 7-146, 8-146

BOWLING: McGrath 5-0-36-1; M E Waugh 5-0-31-1; Warne 5-0-20-3, S R Waugh 1-0-14-0; Reiffel 4-0-22-1; McDermott 5-0-33-1

Redpath and Wainwright prey on Irish weaknesses at Lansdowne Road

Scotland offer proof of potent spirit

Ireland 10
Scotland 16

FROM GERALD DAVIES
IN DUBLIN

FIVE NATIONS' CHAMPIONSHIP

Shepherd, the Scotland full back, gets his pass away as he is tackled by Wallace, the Ireland wing. Photograph: Marc Aspland

THERE is a strange and *vibrant spirit which inhabits* and warms a Scotsman's breast every time he dons his nation's rugby jersey. With a *thistle on his heart, he seems* to grow in stature. Here Scotland gave a performance of a potency which could not have been imagined beforehand. Time and again they demonstrate that, however modest their club rugby may appear, and however narrow the base from which they are able to choose candidates for the international arena, they turn up trumps when the call is made.

Scotland proved once more at Lansdowne Road on Saturday that they are infinitely resourceful. Ireland, bulkier and heavier by 8lb per man, and with a greater range of choices among their taller men in the lineout, looked to *have the personnel to combat* the heavy, wet conditions.

But the Scots, leaner and sparer in their physical attributes, *exhibited in* chasing man and ball the hunger of greyhounds for their prey. So much so, they made Ireland look slow in their control, which the home side enjoyed for long periods, and their delivery. This was accentuated by the uncertainty at half back, where Saverimutto, several times, had to turn to find *his partner*, Elwood.

This weakness represented a cameo of their team performance as a whole. Too often, individual players were left to make headway on their own. While Francis and Popplewell punched their way forward around the fringes of the loose, or Bell and Wallace attempted to get up a full head of steam farther out, they largely did so *in isolation*. Even their concerted efforts, when they came, apart from one magnificent move which resulted in their try, were leaden-footed and rarely convincing. Five times they attempted pushover scrums towards the end but were scuppered, finally giving away a penalty when they themselves had hoped for *a penalty try*.

The Scots were fleeter of foot and quicker of thought, demonstrating the swifter virtues of the ruck as opposed to the more ponderous maul, which Ireland favoured. The afternoon's two outstanding performers relished the speed of Scotland's game. Redpath, at scrum half, confirmed his rightful inheritance of the *mantle* worn *with such distinction* by his predecessor, Gary Armstrong. He probed around the base of the scrum, relieved pressure with astute kicks and, crucially in the conditions, was an unerring link between the tumultuous goings-on among the forwards and the calm authority of Gregor Townsend. It was *Redpath's critical intervention* which ensured the continuity of the movement that resulted in Dods's try.

The other discriminating presence was Rob Wainwright. Scotland always appeared to have a man spare and it was invariably him. He was there at the breakdown. He was also there stealing the ball at the end of the lineout *when it mattered most. When* Staples threatened a match-saving try late in the game, it was Wainwright who was there to cut him short. The Scot played his captain's part magnificently.

Scotland, playing with the wind and rain in the first half, had taken the lead against the run of play when, after a *superb long kick from* Redpath had established a rare attacking position on Ireland's line, McKenzie *swooped on the uncontrolled* tap over the tryline. Elwood kicked a penalty, but Scotland extended their lead with Dods's try and penalty. This was at a time when Ireland had the lineout count in their favour by six to two and the penalty count by eight to two. They failed to capitalise on this advantage.

With Townsend's 40-metre *dropped goal, Scotland* looked to have a good enough lead to defend against the wind. But then Wallace, who had twice earlier attempted to counterattack from his opponents' miskicks, but without profit, this time found a like-minded companion in Geoghegan, who continued the speculative foray. It proved to be more. Francis and Davidson were there to expand the move, which ended gloriously in Clohessy's try.

"*Psychologically, that try*, coming as it did in the 41st minute, should have taken Ireland to victory," Jim Telfer, the Scotland director of rugby, said. But it did not. There were to be no more scores. Scotland pursued their "traditional game", Wainwright said with a twinkle in his eye, "of tackle, tackle, tackle".

They were left to savour a *victory away from home and* the mouth-watering prospect of playing England and France in Edinburgh. The reputation of the fortress at Murrayfield is now to be put to the severest of tests.

SCORERS: Ireland: Try: Clohessy. Conversion: Elwood. Penalty goal: Elwood. Scotland: Tries: McKenzie, Dods. Penalty goal: Dods. Dropped goal: Townsend.

IRELAND: J Staples (Harlequins, captain), R Wallace (Garryowen), J Bell (Northampton), K McQuilkin (Bective Rangers), S Geoghegan (Bath), E Elwood (Lansdowne), C Saverimutto (Sale), N Popplewell (Newcastle), T Kingston (Dolphin), P Clohessy (Young Munster), D Corkery (Cork Constitution), N Francis (Old Belvedere), G Fulcher (Cork Constitution), J Davidson (Dungannon), P Johns (Dungannon)

SCOTLAND: R Shepherd (Melrose), C Joiner (Melrose), S Hastings (Watsonians), I Jardine (Stirling County), M Dods (Northampton); G Townsend (Northampton), B Redpath (Melrose); D Hilton (Bath), K McKenzie (Stirling County), P Wright (Boroughmuir), I Smith (Gloucester), S Campbell (Dundee High School FP), G Weir (Melrose), R Wainwright (West Hartlepool, captain), E Peters (Bath).

Referee: B Campsall (RFU).

Redpath knows punchlines to fuel double act

Mark Souster says that Scotland can prosper on the game of two halves

It was not that long ago that Wales had a monopoly on wonderful half backs — players like Gareth Edwards, Barry John and Phil Bennett, whose performances warmed the heart and brought goosebumps to the *skin. Time* has not dulled the memory.

Since the early 1980s, it has been Scotland's fortune to produce pairings *that* have been at the heart of their grand-slam successes. Roy Laidlaw and John Rutherford in 1984, Gary Armstrong and Craig Chalmers in 1990 — names inextricably linked that trip readily off the tongue.

Bryan Redpath and Gregor Townsend will surely, soon, be added to that list. Amid the debris of their defeat, the Irish were generous in their praise. Pat Whelan, their manager, called Townsend's performance sensational; and Rutherford himself, now one of the coaches of the under-21 side, *acknowledged that the young* man had come of age at Lansdowne Road.

Yet Townsend, 22, knows that nothing would have been possible without the jaunty Redpath supplying the bullets. To single out the stand-off at the expense of the scrum half would be to do the diminutive Melrose player a huge injustice.

Redpath, affectionately known as Basil, produced a performance that demonstrated *the scrum half's art to the* full. For Ireland, his kicking was like death by a thousand cuts. Coupled with that were his sniping runs, his willingness to take on a one-paced Ireland back row and the sublime service off either hand that gave Townsend room to manoeuvre.

Were it always thus. Redpath has not always been accepted as first choice by right. For 18 months, he has had to suffer invidious comparisons with Armstrong, continually being told that he was simply keeping the shirt warm for the great man's return from injury; to which Redpath, who has the looks and carriage of a jockey, and a strength and suppleness to match, merely shrugged and got on with proving and improving himself.

It has paid off. Nobody now would *dare to question his* right to be in the side; even with Armstrong fit and beginning again to look the part. Redpath was typically modest as the after-match praise showered down almost as heavily as the rain itself outside — modest in a kind of "oh shucks, it was nothing really" manner.

If there had been a man-of-the-match award, there would be no doubting the recipient. Admitting that it was one of those never-to-be-*forgotten* days, when everything he touched turned to gold, Redpath said: "You don't know why, it just happens: but it was a team performance. Everyone played their part."

Chris Saverimutto, Redpath's Ireland counterpart, certainly will not forget his five nations' debut, having been chased and harried into submission, twice caught in the blink of an eye before he *had even had time to think, let* alone pass.

Townsend, too, was in his element, oblivious to the elements and anxious to confirm that he was the man to take Scotland forward in this era of open rugby — and all that that implies.

The sceptics, and there were many, had looked up at the grey, rain-laden skies above a windswept Dublin on Saturday *morning and muttered* worryingly about the absence of Chalmers. They need not have been alarmed.

Apart from a couple of wild punts that failed to find touch — one eventually led to the Ireland try before half-time — Townsend showed that he has added maturity to his repertoire of skills, which, when allied to his natural pace, make him a formidable opponent. One classic break was halted only by a desperate tap *tackle in the first half, and his* dropped goal from 40 metres was perfect.

The joke at Gala, his former club, always was that Townsend never knew what he was going to do with the ball, so how could his team-mates; but then, on Saturday, neither did Ireland, and Scotland prospered accordingly.

THE TIMES
PRESENTS
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Docherty earns credit in defeat

BY SRIKUMAR SEN
BOXING CORRESPONDENT

DREW DOCHERTY may never get over the death of James Murray, but he made it *a little easier for himself to* continue with his boxing career thanks to an excellent performance in his first contest after the tragic bout in Glasgow last October.

Docherty decided to return to the ring against Daniel Jimenez, of Puerto Rico, the World Boxing Organisation bantamweight champion, to see if he still had his heart in boxing and, by winning the title, to give some meaning to Murray's career. Docherty did not win but came so close that he accomplished both aims.

He was particularly heartened by the support given by Murray's parents, Kenny and Margaret. They went to Docherty's mother and father's home in Cumbernauld *on Friday to tell* Docherty they were "100 per cent behind him".

"My mother and father told *me that Jim's parents had* been round. To think that they were thinking of me 24 hours before the fight shows you what *kind of people they are. I* am glad I was able to do well for everybody's sake."

The judging was as erratic as ever. Two of the judges had Jimenez winning by the staggering margin of five or six rounds. The Italian judge's call of 115-114 was probably correct. I would not have objected to anyone making Docherty the winner by one round. He boxed beautifully, his jab threw Jimenez off his stride many times and his elbows took most of the champion's blows to the body.

Some of the rounds Jimenez was given looked even and could have gone Docherty's way. Had Jimenez not had the sense to change tactics briefly *in the tenth, and keep* Docherty out by boxing, the Scot would almost certainly have won the bout on more cards.

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

BY ROBERT SHEEHAN, BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

This hand was reported to me by Graham Kirby. It involves assessing how likely the defence is to find a killing switch.

Dealer South **Aggregate Teams** **Game all**

♠974
♥J4
♦AKJ864
♣J5

♠10653
♥10872
♦7
♣AQ83

N
W E
S

♠KJ82
♥963
♦Q95
♣K107

♠AQ
♥AKQ5
♦1032
♣9642

S	W	N	E
1 NT (15-17)	Pass	3 NT	All pass

3NT by South **Lead: (i) three of spades, (ii) two of hearts**

The problem for the declarer is whether to play diamonds from the top and risk the defence finding the club switch if they do not break; or whether to give the defence less chance to signal, but risk going off in a cold contract.

At the table where the lead *was a spade, the declarer* played three rounds of diamonds. This gave West a chance to discard a spade and *a heart, and so East brightly* switched to the ten of clubs. This is the correct card in the suit, as it enables the defence to take four tricks whenever West's clubs are A Q 8 x or better. West won the queen and returned a low club, and now, after winning the king, East could play the seven of clubs through the declarer's 9 6 to West's A 8.

At the second table, where the lead was a heart, the declarer won with the king and played a diamond to the jack. East appreciated that the declarer had to be well-upholstered in hearts, but, with less evidence to go on, he switched *to spades*. That was *correct in* the sense that he needed less from West to make four tricks in spades than he did to make *four in clubs. It failed here* though — declarer rose with the ace of spades, unblocked the jack of hearts, crossed *back to hand with the* ten of diamonds and made ten tricks.

☐ The 1996 Macallan International pairs championship, in association with *The Times* and *The Sunday Times*, will be played at The White House Hotel, Albany Street, London, NW1 on January 24, 25 and 26. Information on 0181-878 5844.

☐ Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

MANTICORE
a. *Goan techno music*
b. A Persian man-lion
c. Tea-making soldiers

LIE-BY
a. A concubine, mistress
b. A tell-tale
c. An Edwardian bed-warmer

LEUDES
a. A vassal or feudatory
b. Distasteful jokes
c. A flasher

MUTCHKIN
a. A small person
b. A plant of the catkin family
c. A Scottish measure

Answers on page 37

KEENE on CHESS

BY RAYMOND KEENE
CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Blockading bishop

In this game, from the tournament in Gausdal, Norway, the runner-up in the competition, scores a fine victory by plunging a bishop into the heart of Black's defences.

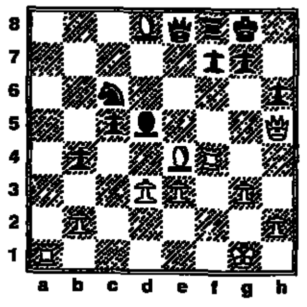
After White played 24. Bf6, *it proved impossible for* Black to capture this piece, and its continued presence, blockading the black camp *and harrying Black's lines* of communication, meant that White was able to build up a winning attack in short order.

White: Margeir Petursson
Black: John Emms
Gausdal, January 1996

English Opening

1	c4	c5
2	Nf3	Nc6
3	Nc3	Nf6
4	g3	d5
5	cxd5	Nxd5
6	Bg2	Nc7
7	d3	e5
8	Nd2	Bd7
9	0-0	Be7
10	Nc4	0-0
11	a4	b6
12	Bd2	Rb8
13	f4	exf4
14	Bxf4	Rc8
15	a5	Ne6
16	Bd2	Rb8
17	axb6	axb6
18	Nd5	b5
19	Na5	Nxa5
20	Bxa5	Qe8
21	Bc3	Nd4
22	e3	Nc6
23	Qh5	b4
24	Bf6	h6
25	Be4	Be6
26	Rf4	Rd8
27	Bxe7	Bxd5
28	Bxd8	Black resigns

Diagram of final position



United States championship

The United States championship, in Modesto, California, ended in a triple tie between Patrick Wolff, Alexander Ivanov and Nick de Firmian, all *grand*masters. Wolff demonstrated that his month-long stint as the assistant to Anand in the *world championship match* had benefited his game. In the subsequent play-off for the championship, Wolff tri*umphed, thus taking* the title for the second time.

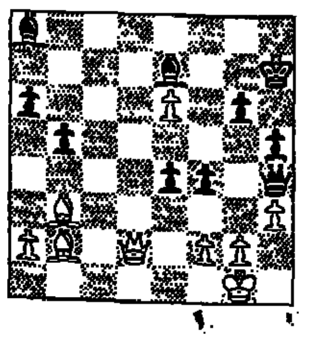
Times chess book

Improve your game with Raymond Keene's book, *The Times Winning Chess*, published by Batsford at £9.99 (credit card orders may be made to 01376 327901).

☐ *Raymond Keene* writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene



White to move. This position is from the game Kosten — Larsen, Hastings Premier, 1990. Here, White found a powerful move that immediately terminated the game. Can you see what he played?

Solution, page 37

هكذا من الأهل

صورة من الأصل

Style stays under wraps as France make much-needed victory their only concern

Rowell and England await new dawn

France	15
England	12

From David Hands
Rugby Correspondent
in Paris

FRENCH thoughts will take a while to turn to grand slams. For them, victory at Parc des Princes here on Saturday, over the opponents who have balked them in the five nations' championship for so long, has satisfied the moment. Yet the fitful promise remains if France can discover a more creative side in their remaining internationals.

England must try to sustain domination only after one door has closed. But is this yet the opening of another? "If England win a triple crown, and I'm not counting any chickens, then ... blooding new players is a good start and some boys have grown up," Will Carling, the captain, said.

But the back-to-basics campaign will have to be more surely founded. "*Reculer pour mieux sauter* [regroup in order to advance the better]," was how Jack Rowell, the manager, described their approach but England will not bound forward from a creaking scrum and an erratic lineout. These areas of traditional expertise went badly awry.

It has been an odd weekend for an Englishman in Paris. His country's first and second teams have been matched in discipline — though Dourthe's stamp on Clarke's head, captured on television, spoilt the initial impression — and strangled by the controlled tactical kicking of Thierry Lacroix in precisely the manner that Rob Andrew did so often from the No 10 position.

Lacroix acknowledges a debt to the finishing school that Natal provided him with last summer in perfecting the diagonal kicks and the wicked, hanging "bombs" that so tormented England. Closer to home, he even admits he has come to terms with the Gilbert ball rather than the Adidas product which the French customarily use. Four penalty attempts and two dropped goals nevertheless missed their target.

Two questions were left hanging in the Parisian air. If Lacroix had been more successful with the boot, would France have expanded their game? And, if Dean Richards had not been restricted to a mere cameo role while Clarke required stitches in a head wound, would it have made a difference to the result?

The answer to the first is no. At one stage France appeared to be unsure whether to use their young backs or Lacroix's boot before deciding this was victory by hook or by crook. They were marginally the more deserving of two limited teams and the dropped goal with which Castaignède, 21 yesterday, won the match will linger in his memory.

The answer to the second question is perhaps. This became a game made for Richards's mauling strengths. The veteran No 8 is an expert, too, at attracting the bobbling ball at the lineout, which now fell so frequently to Benazzi, the game's dominant forward.

England's comparative failure at the lineout, by 14-12, was critical. Within the first quarter they had compounded an inability to take the most genuine try-scoring opportunities of the game with the concession of three of their own lineouts in succession. Underwood's hand may have grazed the ball in-goal in the opening minute but downward pressure was hardly apparent; however, had the same player been able to get a decent pass away to Catt after a raid down the middle, he might have rendered England invaluable service.

In matches where the result hangs by a thread, such omissions are emphasised and Regan and his jumpers will not enjoy watching the first-half video. Nor is there much virtue in hoping that the referee will lend a hand.

It was not the most consistent of days for David McHugh, but Bayfield and Clarke must find answers of their own if opponents are set on hustling them. In that sense we saw a repetition of Murrayfield in 1990, when England's lineout was so subtly undermined by the Scots.

England's young players will be better for the experience. Dawson, with some outstanding box-kicking, and Grayson played with mature authority and Sleightholme — one of those to affect nose clips, the latest fashion aid to assist oxygen intake — may congratulate himself on his international debut. To see at least a share of the match snatched away in the final minute will also be a test of character and, when they come to play Wales at Twickenham on February 3, they are unlikely to be found wanting.

But Rowell himself, while satisfied with the improvement from the two pre-Christmas games, seemed to criticise the team's leadership: "We could be more strategic in where we throw the ball, vary the length of the lineout more regularly to avoid the skirmishing.

"For two-thirds of the game we were the superior scrummagers but, by the end, the French were, and then it makes you wonder about fitness, technique and the last thing you do is back-row moves."

From just such a move, Ojomoh, running across field, was flattened and surrendered the 51-metre penalty which gave France a 12-9 lead. Grayson's first dropped goal had hauled England back to equality, his second did likewise before Carbonneau, who did not have the happiest of days at the base of the France scrum, chipped to Sleightholme's wing and Benazzi thundered into a rebounding ball.

Périé, recipient of a yellow card for the only overt piece of indiscipline during the game, drove home the territorial advantage and Carbonneau had time to find Castaignède with his pass. The dropped goal was imperfectly hit but then, style was never going to be the primary ingredient of this match.

"*C'etait un non-match*," a French colleague said, but now that it is out of the way, it may be the release that both teams need to find themselves.

SCORERS: France: Penalty goals: Lacroix (3) Dropped goals: Lacroix, Castaignède England: Penalty goals: Grayson (2) Dropped goals: Grayson (2)

FRANCE: J-L Sadourny (Colomiers); E Ntamack (Toulouse), R Dourthe (Dax), T Castaignède (Toulouse), P Saint-André (Montferrand, captain) T Lacroix (Dax), P Carbonneau (Toulouse), M Périé (Toulon), J-M Gonzalez (Bayonne), C Califano (Toulouse), A Benazzi (Agen), O Merle (Montferrand), O Roumat (Dax), L Cabannes (Racing), F Pelous (Dax) Sadourny replaced by P Bernat-Salles (Begles-Bordeaux, 56min)

ENGLAND: M J Catt (Bath); J M Sleightholme (Bath), W D C Carling (Harlequins, captain), J C Guscott (Bath), R Underwood (Leicester/RAF), P J Grayson (Northampton), M J S Dawson (Northampton); G C Rowntree (Leicester), M P Regan (Bristol), J Leonard (Harlequins), S O Ojomoh (Bath), M O Johnson (Leicester), M C Bayfield (Northampton), L B N Dallaglio (Wasps), B B Clarke (Bath) Clarke temporarily replaced by D Richards (Leicester, 17-26)

Referee: D T M McHugh (Ireland)

IAN STEWART

Benazzi, the game's dominant forward, sets off on a typical forward charge for France during the victory over England at Parc des Princes

TABLE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Scotland	1	1	0	0	16	10	2
France	1	1	0	0	15	12	2
England	1	0	0	1	12	15	0
Ireland	1	0	0	1	10	16	0
Wales	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

RESULTS: Jan 20: France 15 England 12; Ireland 10 Scotland 16

MATCHES TO COME: Feb 3: England v Wales; Scotland v France Feb 17: France v Ireland; Wales v Scotland. March 2: Ireland v Wales, Scotland v England March 16: England v Ireland; Wales v France.

Entertainers who refuse to entertain

ANDREW LONGMORE

At Parc des Princes

Welcome to the bright new world of professional rugby. Much like the old, I hear you say. Yes, except England used to win wars of attrition like this in the good old days of Mooro and Rob and Deano. (Deano did prompt a bout of nostalgia, leaping the barrier like Colin Jackson in his enthusiasm to replace Ben Clarke, but, after one massive bearhug, returned to the bench and the past again). Afterwards, everyone said how disappointed they were about losing, as if this was some acceptable mantra for the new age but, in the midst of cliché, the point was lost.

Victory is the only justification for playing the way England — and France, for that matter — did on Saturday. All the chuntering that accompanied England's recent era of domination was dashed against the brick wall of success: England had lost with style for long enough. Now the fundamental paradox of professionalism, of being paid to play, is that professionals have a greater duty to entertain than amateurs.

The balance has altered. The players are hired hands now, the servants not of the Rugby Football Union but of the spectators who pay their wages. When Thomas Castaignède's dropped kick wobbled through the posts like a mishit three-iron, England had, in one arc of the young France centre's boot, infringed all three of the immutable laws of professionalism. They did not avoid defeat, they did not win, they did not entertain. Instead, they sought sanctuary in the fourth, unwritten, law. They did not lose too badly.

Not so badly, at least, that the shibboleths of narrow defeat — "could have gone either way, young team, learn from the experience, blah, blah" — seemed out of place. In the maturity of the halfback pair, Dawson and Grayson, and the overall strength of the pack came real hope.

Nor were England necessarily the chief architects of a dire game, though direness was their aim. The French were even more culpable, first because they were at home, second because they had the backs to exploit their possession and failed the test of character yet again. But, in victory, who cared?

Lacroix, heartily booed just minutes earlier for a woeful attempt at a dropped goal, was a hero once more, the ancient enemy had been smitten at last, the barricades rebuilt and all was right with the world. "*Huit ans — ça suffit*" as *L'Équipe*, the sporting daily, had roared from its front pages that morning above a cartoon of two jousting knights. *Suffit*, indeed. The £23,000 bonus that the France players stand to earn this season from their federation is still hot and never mind the whiff of fear, of mortgage repayments, new cars and winter holidays which swept like nerve-gas through the French play.

> 'Neither side dared much and, in a sense, both lost'

It took the bursting pride of Jon Sleightholme, as tangible in his words after the game as in his lusty rendition of the national anthem before it, to shed a shaft of sentimental sunlight through a desperately grey and unromantic day. The Grimsby-bred winger, who cannot hold down a regular place in the Bath XV, would have paddled down the Seine to play and if his emotions were complicated by defeat, his overriding pleasure at his own survival was unmistakable.

Sleightholme's rise from part-time league player to England cap would have induced vertigo in the strongest of minds. His immediate thought on being told by his girlfriend, Julie, that he had been picked for England was: "How nice, the England A team." It was several minutes before the real message was fully received and another week before reality dawned. "I soon realised at the first squad session that I wasn't just there to make up the numbers."

Three shuddering tackles on the France captain, Philippe Saint-André, within the first quarter stifled the cries of "Jon who?", gave England heart and the new boy confidence. The resounding cheers from the Grimsby RFC clubhouse, where their first international already has his own trophy corner, could be heard the length of the country.

"That was the idea," Sleightholme said. "I had gone through all the different options in my mind of what might happen in the first few minutes. If I got the ball, if Philippe got the ball, to do something so that people would turn around and say: 'He's not just a debutant, he's here to do business.'" As the game wore on, he also learnt something about sacrifice and the common good. "I would have liked a run at them, but I did as much as I could."

The same could be said of England. It was just a shame they were not asked to do more. He who dares, wins, and all that. Neither side dared much and, in a sense, both lost. But do not try to tell the French that. The figures on their bank balances tell them they won.

Castaignède celebrates his match-winning kick

Solid foundations are laid for brighter future

Rob Andrew sees character, commitment and room for improvement from a team in transition during an honourable Paris defeat

Carbonneau: struggled to set up French backs

It was only the first weekend of the five nations' and yet already a spanner has been thrown into the works. France, having overcome their jinx side in Paris, must now head for Murrayfield to play Scotland, who, against the odds, emerged victorious at Lansdowne Road. Such is the magic of the championship.

Make no mistake, victory over England was one of huge significance for the French, a fact that became apparent by their early switch to a more restricted tactical plan. After initial attempts to run the ball were stifled by the English defence, their ambition appeared to dry up, as though they were fearful of the outcome. This, remember, was a French side that had played very well against New Zealand in the autumn and that, on Saturday morning, many people expected would give England a thumping. By Saturday night, France were grateful enough to have won at all against a team that, though short of international experience in many areas, offered more positive than negative qualities.

England showed the character and commitment onto which other elements can be grafted. True, it is not enough to show them only in a backs-to-the-wall game in Paris — they must carry them through against Wales and onward into the championship — but some of the same individuals had put in average displays in the two internationals before Christmas.

There are areas which need to be worked on: England's scrummaging was adequate in the first half, less so in the second, which may have been through a lack of concentration. They also have to look at why they did not win at least 90 per cent of their own ball at lineouts, given the proven quality of the lock forwards. When England did get it right, it provided good possession, but it came mostly from the front, which is good defensively or for driving close to the set-piece, but not so helpful as attacking ball for the backs.

Martin Bayfield, in the middle of the lineout, was given a very hard game by Olivier Roumat, who was pulled up only once for barging — but that's international rugby and, if sides can get away with it, they will go on doing it. If England had won the five or six extra lineouts they expected to, it could have made an appreciable difference in a game as tight as this.

For their part, the French had great trouble clearing the rucks and mauls and Philippe Carbonneau, at scrum half, sometimes had difficulty identifying the next link in the chain. They lost their shape in that area when, in past seasons, you would have expected a great wave of French attackers to bear down on you.

Indeed, in the first ten minutes, England missed what were virtually the only try-scoring chances of the match. They were far from clear-cut, — I do not think Rory Underwood got much downward pressure on his first-minute chance and, when a gap opened shortly afterwards, a lot of work remained if he or Mike Catt were to score — but those are the sort of chances that have to be taken and will have contributed to the disappointment England felt that their long run of success against France in the championship has come to an end. A young side has plenty yet to offer this season, but Scotland should beware: there is a lot more to come from France.

SNOW REPORTS

	Depth (cm) L	U	Conditions Piste	Off/p	Runs to resort	Weather (5pm)	°C	Last snow
ANDORRA								
Soldeu	30	100	good	varied	good	cloud	-6	20/1
(Dusting of new snow; good skiing)								
AUSTRIA								
Kitzbühel	5	70	icy	heavy	art	fine	-2	8/1
(Hard-packed snow with icy patches; some good snow)								
St Anton	25	120	firm	varied	art	sun	-8	8/1
(Good skiing still in many areas; snow machines in use)								
Söll	5	50	fair	crusty	closed	sun	-2	8/1
(High pistes still good; snow machines topping up)								
FRANCE								
Avoriaz	95	120	good	varied	good	fine	-1	7/1
(Still mostly good snow and clear skies)								
La Tania	50	85	fair	varied	closed	fine	-1	7/1
(Good skiing above Courchevel 1850)								
Val d'Isère	60	120	good	varied	art	fair	3	12/1
(Good piste skiing at height, lowest runs icy/worn)								
ITALY								
Cervinia	100	280	good	varied	good	fine	-3	12/1
(Good piste skiing continues; fabulous sunny weather)								
SWITZERLAND								
Arosa	30	50	good	varied	icy	fine	-2	8/1
(Excellent piste grooming maintaining conditions)								
Grindelwald	0	30	worn	crusty	closed	fine	-4	7/1
(Kleine Scheidegg pistes skiing well; snow forecast)								

Source: Ski Club of Great Britain. L - lower slopes; U - upper.

Victors decline to cite Clohessy

By Mark Souster and David Hands

THE Scottish Rugby Union (SRU) yesterday decided not to cite Peter Clohessy, the Ireland prop forward, after an incident at half-time during the five nations' championship match at Lansdowne Road on Saturday in which Peter Wright injured his elbow. Although officials believe that Wright's injury was deliberately caused, the television evidence was inconclusive. Instead, the SRU expects to make an unofficial protest to its Irish counterparts.

Reports that the top ten clubs in Scotland had formed their own limited company and were considering a breakaway from the SRU in the row over representation in the European Cup, were dismissed as "fantasy".

Ronnie Smith, from Boroughmuir, one of the clubs pushing for clubs rather than districts to be allowed to play in Europe, said there had been no discussion by the ten clubs, who were addressed by Peter Wheeler and Gareth Davies on Tuesday, on any suggested split with the union "nor is there any question of the clubs being poised to break away and seeking to join a European Super League".

Smith stressed that there had been no discussion as to what the senior clubs might do should they lose the vote at the special general meeting called to decide the contentious issue.

"To suggest also that, if the clubs do win the day, they would then demand resignations by senior union personnel, seems to be deliberate mischief-making," Smith said. "It is patently untrue. The reports are untrue and misleading."

☐ The draw for the last 16 of the Swalec Cup takes place today after the fifth round, on Saturday, yielded few surprises. Cardiff, beaten in the Heineken Cup final earlier this month, overwhelmed Penarth 62-6 on a day when Adrian Davies, in a strong wind, could convert only one of 11 tries, though Jonathan Davies added another.

The older Davies played at centre, but a quiet game suggested no belated recall to the Wales squad of 32 that will be announced tomorrow. Those involved will go through eight training sessions in nine days before the team to play England on February 3 is named on January 30.

Swansea, the holders, had to work hard for their cup victory over Tonmawr, of the fifth division: Huw Woodland scored three tries as Neath dismissed Hoel-y-Cym 76-8; and Llanelli, perennial cup favourites after nine successes, won 30-17 at Merthyr, but the home side's pride remained intact and Mark Titley — once of London Welsh, Swansea and Wales — concluded the match with Merthyr's second try.

☐ The shape of the new provincial formula for southern-hemisphere teams will start to emerge at Bristol this evening when New South Wales open a nine-match tour at the Memorial Ground under the captain's baton wielded by David Campese.

NEW SOUTH WALES (v Bristol): T Kelaher; M Mostyn, J Madz, M Dixon, D Campese; T Wallace, A Ekert, M Hartill, K O'Kane, A Blades, W Ofahengaue, N Harvey, S Domoni, D Manu, F Finau.

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Complacency almost costs dear

Victorious Chelsea still well short of finished article

Chelsea	1
Nottingham Forest	0

By Russell Kempson

RUUD GULLIT jabbed at his forehead. "It was a tough game, we had to play it up here," he said. He referred to the cerebral game which Chelsea tried to employ to beat Nottingham Forest at Stamford Bridge on Saturday. Not that Gullit has known any different in a career of often sublime distinction. He has been, and still is, the thinking man's footballer.

Whether sweeper, striker or general dogsbody, he strolls and cajoles, nursing his impressionable colleagues through good times and bad. Never hiding, always available, and destined to influence those in his immediate vicinity even when the force is not quite with him. As free transfers go, discretely forgetting his amply-proportioned wages, it is British football's most spectacular coup.

With Gullit, though, comes the baggage of expectation. Now that the honeymoon is over and his supposedly fragile joints have apparently adjusted to the rigours of the FA Carling Premiership, those who pay £2 a programme at home will demand more for their investment. The seeds of success have been sown.

An FA Cup shoot-out victory at the previously impregnable St James' Park and a record of only one defeat in 13 matches is fine for starters. Yet ambitions become easily bloated and egos are too readily massaged, an all-too-common trait in a sport overflowing in self-delusion. Reality is obscured amid the *bonhomie* and back-slapping.

It is where Chelsea now find themselves. Much better than the Premiership worst but well short of the best. A no man's land, where careless over-confidence can wreck the most carefully-laid plans. "You don't get extra points for winning by three or four," Glenn Hoddle, the Chelsea manager, said. "We tried to kill them off but didn't."

Spencer: decisive goal

Exactly. Chelsea attempted to finish the job, having gone ahead through the unmarked Spencer's crisp shot from Petrescu's 56th-minute cross, but could not. The reason? A sudden belief that neat passing triangles and clever approach work was enough; an almost cocky disrespect for Forest's powers of recovery: a sloppy, superior attitude that belies tenth place in the table.

Gullit explained that they had had to use their heads, and they did. The wrong parts, though; the parts that told them, prematurely, of what a good side they had become. How Petrescu and Phelan, the *de rigueur* wing backs, had bedded in nicely, how Duberry continues to emerge as a defender of stature, and how Wise and Hughes remain spiky, awkward customers. All true, but nothing to crow about yet.

Hoddle felt that the midweek game against Newcastle United had drained his players, physically and emotionally, and that although they were "tuned in" again before kick-off, they were only able to perform in short spells. "At least we're becoming more and more consistent," he said. Yet had Forest not been strangely off-colour, or had they capitalised on a furious late flurry, Chelsea's brief but perfectly-formed bursts would have counted for nothing.

Hitchcock saved a slithering, deflected shot from Pearce, and Woan curled a free kick narrowly over. From a position of apparent security, Chelsea had to scrap and scramble in an undignified finale, all so unnecessary had they rammed home their earlier superiority instead of pouting and posing.

At the end, Gullit trudged off exhausted, a job well done. He had used his head, inspired those around him and again justified his wages. As long as his team-mates show similar intelligence, and are not simply content to lurk in the master's shadow, their future appears bright.

CHELSEA (3-4-2-1): K Hitchcock — M Duberry, D Lee, S Clarke — D Petrescu, R Gullit, E Newton, T Phelan — D Wise, J Spencer (sub: G Peacock, 79min) — M Hughes (sub: P Furlong, 89)

NOTTINGHAM FOREST (4-4-2): M Crossley — D Lyttle, C Cooper, S Chettle, S Pearce — S Stone, S Gemmill (sub: J Lee, 83), C Bart-Williams, I Woan — K Campbell, B Roy

Referee: J Winter

Venables calls up Anfield strike pair

By John Goodbody

TERRY VENABLES yesterday called up the Liverpool attacking pair of Robbie Fowler and Stan Collymore into his England squad for a three-day training camp at Bisham Abbey this week.

The England coach was at Anfield on Saturday to watch Fowler score twice and Collymore once in their 5-0 victory over Leeds. Fowler has now scored ten goals in the past seven games and Collymore seven in nine.

Fowler, an England Under-21 international, has yet to appear in the senior team while Collymore, his £8.5 million partner in the Liverpool attack, made his debut against Japan in the Umbro Cup and was a substitute when England lost to Brazil in the same competition last summer.

Collymore withdrew through injury from the squad to play Colombia last September and, since then, has not been picked while he spent the autumn learning to settle into Liverpool's style of play.

Meanwhile, speculation continues over the appointment of Venables's successor when he gives up the job after the European Championship finals in June.

The eventual choice is still likely to come from candidates who have played for England at full international level, although the five-man Football Association panel will look at other options.

Further consideration of a shortlist has been hampered by a throat infection suffered by Jimmy Armfield, a technical consultant to the FA. This has prevented the former England full back, and now BBC radio commentator, from consulting managers and coaches over the past few days.

Frank Clark, the Nottingham Forest manager, is still a fancied outsider for the job but Bryan Robson, the Middlesbrough manager, remains the favourite.

Kenny Dalglish, Blackburn Rovers' director of football, has been mentioned as a possible contender. However, it is of prime importance that the individual can cope with pressure and the former Scottish international found the job of managing Liverpool so onerous that he was forced to resign in February, 1991.

IAN WALDIE

Johnston, second left, receives the congratulations of his team-mates after scoring his opening goal at Ibrox

Old Firm pedigree undermined

KEVIN McCARRA

Scottish commentary

THE Old Firm have had every reason to think of the Bell's Scottish League premier division as a docile old pooch that can be led along in safety. On Saturday, however, the family pet turned nasty. Celtic heard only a low growl, in a 0-0 draw away to Kilmarnock, but there were bared fangs, claws and a savaging for Rangers as Heart of Midlothian won 3-0 at Ibrox.

There is, all the same, nothing feral about the man who scored the goals. Allan Johnston, 22, is a stylish midfield player who is just beginning to allow himself the impudence that will bring his skills into focus. The opener was forced home by him at the near post, but the later finishes contained audacity.

His second goal was claimed with a lob over Andy Goram from close range, and Johnston was to round off the victory by walking past the goalkeeper to roll in the shot that made him the first man to score a hat-trick against Rangers since John Brown, for Dundee, in November 1985. Johnston, who is sometimes confined to a position wide on the right, savoured the freedom of his roaming role at Ibrox. Just as startling as the result was the ease with which Hearts accomplished it. A goal for the Edinburgh side in only the sixth minute left Rangers anxious, strident and clumsy. The suspended Paul Gascoigne was missed, but his absence scarcely explained the Ibrox team's tendency to misplace even elementary passes. The visitors possessed all the incisiveness, and should probably have notched at least two more goals. Johnston, in particular, should have added to his tally when put through once more in the closing minutes. As it was, the hat-trick and the sheen of youth made him a glowing presence.

Yet men tarnished by time were also crucial. Five of Saturday's team have been bought by Jim Jefferies, the Hearts manager, since his appointment last summer and all have a knowing, weather-beaten quality about them. Age and past hardships, though, need not dull ability.

Johnston was perpetually gambolling away from the Rangers midfield but those runs only produced his second and third goals because Neil Pointon found him on each occasion with passes of vision and technique. The midfield player, signed from Oldham for around £30,000, typifies the astuteness of Jefferies.

Pointon still has the polish of a player who performed for Everton and Manchester City. Returning from injury, he had a particularly unhappy match in the defeat by Hibernian earlier this month, but Jefferies continued to value Pointon, knowing that he could add poise to a club that has, in the past, favoured a hectic, ill-controlled approach.

Hearts are now third in the premier division and, with the emergence of young talent such as Johnston and Gary Locke, may make Tynecastle a more attractive venue for supporters than it has been for many years. However, the trouncing of Rangers, although highly unexpected, is not a miracle cure.

Hearts remain £5 million in debt and in a sport where, increasingly, finance is destiny, the future is still bound to contain its troubles. Retaining Locke and Johnston, for instance, will itself be extremely difficult. At least in Jefferies, however, Hearts do have a manager who, after years with Berwick Rangers and Falkirk, is well-versed in penury.

While the visitors stripped Rangers of their dignity on Saturday, the Ibrox club at least managed to hold on to the lead in the premier division. Celtic are still a point behind, having failed to beat Kilmarnock while lacking a key forward, Andreas Thom, who was injured.

That fact made it easy to understand the travel plans of Tommy Burns, the manager. He was thought to be in Rotterdam yesterday, watching Dennis de Nooijer, Holland's leading scorer, play for Sparta against Ajax. A £1.2 million transfer may be imminent.

The results against Hearts and Kilmarnock left one half of the Old Firm chastened and the other mildly disappointed. The Glasgow clubs are bound to indulge in some reflection, but there will also be a brief interval in their premier division programme to allow a spot of bullying. Next weekend is given over to the Tennents Scottish Cup. Rangers meet Keith and Celtic play Whitehill Welfare.

Leicester suffer from lack of punch and width

Leicester City	0
Sunderland	0

By David Maddock

MARTIN O'NEILL must wait a while longer for that elusive first victory since filling the managerial vacancy at Leicester. His worrying run was extended to six matches, and there was never much danger of it coming to an end against a determined Sunderland.

The statistics would suggest both sides are more than a little shot-shy. The depressing reality endured through this match bears them out. It was 15 minutes before the first goal attempt, half an hour before the first real chance, and 90 minutes before we were put out of our misery by the final whistle.

There were moments of excitement, but they were mere punctuation marks through long chapters of inactivity as both sides, contracted by a lack of width, were perfectly content to slog out a contrite midfield duel.

Mind you, when the chances came, they were good ones, and the inability of both sides to take them hinted at why they are unable to emerge from the shadows of the chasing pack into the glare of the promotion spotlight at the top of the Endsleigh Insurance League first division.

Joachim was the chief culprit for Leicester, his miss after 32 minutes setting the tone for the rest of a long, excruciating afternoon. He cleverly created space on the edge of the box and then shot wide when he should have hit the target.

Working the goalkeeper, in coaching parlance, is the first requirement of a striker, especially when the opposition field, as Sunderland did in the form of Shay Given, a 19-year-old on-loan goalkeeper making his debut.

He did produce two saves of reasonable quality, first from Lowe when he kept out a low shot to his left, and then late in the game when he athletically diverted a vicious drive from Parker. But mostly Leicester made it simple for the Irishman.

O'Neill was left to lament a missed opportunity. "The cutting edge was missing and we have now won only nine matches at home since the summer of 1994," he said. "That, quite simply, is not good enough."

Sunderland were equally profligate, if not prolific. Their best chance fell to Russell after Philip Gray served up a shooting chance on a golden platter in the 53rd minute. In keeping with the tone of this stagnant match, he tamely diverted the ball into the arms of Poole, the Leicester goalkeeper.

Hall: late sending-off

The home side's best moment came after 73 minutes when it looked that they would at last get the victory to push them into fourth place in the division. Corica, a cavalier presence in a roundhead environment, crossed and Roberts's header looped on an apparently goalbound arc. Predictably, it came back off the bar.

So, in the final analysis, there were more bookings, nine in total, than chances, a damning statistic.

Those bookings were partly the fault of a pedantic referee, Jim Rushton, of Stoke, who compounded a poor afternoon by sending off the Sunderland newcomer, Gareth Hall, a £300,000 signing from Chelsea, in the last minute for his second bookable offence when both yellow cards — for tackles from behind — were highly debatable.

Peter Reid, the Sunderland manager, said: "We have asked the referee to have another look at it, because the second tackle wasn't exactly vicious was it?"

LEICESTER CITY (5-3-2): K Poole — S Grayson, F Rolling, C Hill, S Walsh, M Whitlow — D Lowe, S Corica, G Parker — J Joachim (sub: E Heskey, 73min), I Roberts.

SUNDERLAND (4-4-2): S Given — D Kubicki, R Ord, A Melville, M Scott — S Agnew, G Hall, P Bracewell (sub: Martin Gray, 75), Michael Gray — P Gray, C Russell (sub: L Howey, 61)

Referee: J Rushton

Davies the key to repeat showing

Chesterfield	1
Oxford United	0

By a Correspondent

EVERY game in the Endsleigh Insurance League second division is a good one for John Duncan, the Chesterfield manager. He remains as proud of last season's promotion now as he was after the play-off final in May.

That, at least, was his line after the match on Saturday although, for the final 15 minutes, Duncan hardly bore the appearance of a man pleased simply to be at Saltergate.

Bellowing instructions in a forbiddingly fierce Scottish accent and waving his arms frantically in accompaniment, he might have passed for a dealer on the old Stock Market floor had he exchanged his overcoat and baseball cap for a loud jacket and braces.

Not that Duncan is in a position to act impulsively where money is concerned. Chesterfield are hardly scavenging through football's dustbins, as the recent signing of Paul Holland from Sheffield United for £150,000 testifies but, on an average gate of 4,500, there is little margin for error.

They will be in no position to refuse a lucrative offer for Kevin Davies, the 18-year-old forward with the build of a young Norman Whiteside, whose future has caused constant speculation among supporters since his debut two years ago.

That Davies will leave for the FA Carling Premiership is almost unquestioned. Chesterfield's prospects of earning a second successive promotion, however, hinge largely on whether they can delay the seemingly inevitable until the end of the season.

It is 45 years since they last featured in the League's top half, but here they demonstrated sufficient resilience at the back and tenacity in midfield on a bitterly cold afternoon which, allied to the touch of Davies, suggest they might emulate their postwar best. The victory was their eighth at home and leaves them in fifth place, good enough for another play-off slot.

"Our biggest strength is our strength," Nicky Law, their captain, explained. "Swindon and Crewe are at the top of the table and they pass the ball around because it's the only way they know, win or lose. I just feel, as the pitches become heavier, we will get stronger because we are so hard to break down."

So Oxford discovered. Mercer was forced into just one difficult save when Rush shot from close range, but otherwise Chesterfield had the better chances after Lormor had given them the lead in the twelfth minute, for all Oxford's late possession.

The visitors will require greater defensive cohesion in their FA Cup fourth-round tie against Nottingham Forest next week and Denis Smith, their manager, said: "If we start as badly again, we will be five down after ten minutes."

CHESTERFIELD (4-3-3): B Mercer — C Perkins, N Law, M Williams, M Jules — T Curtis, P Holland, J Narbett — K Davies, G Lund (sub: D Hazel, 60min), A Lormor

OXFORD UNITED (4-4-2): P Whitehead — L Robinson, M Elliott, P Gilchrist, P Powell (sub: M Druce, 75) — S Massey (sub: M Lewis, 60), R Forward, D Smith, J Beauchamp — P Moody, D Rush (sub: M Aldridge, 75)

Referee: A Leake

Ball brings passion to drab tale of two cities

Mark Hodkinson on a manager trying desperately to defend his side after a colourless encounter with one of their relegation rivals

Alan Ball, face on fire, glass of beer in shaking hand, played the press with same dearth of finesse that his side had shown in a bleak 1-1 draw with Coventry City. "You lot write what you want to write. You want to say it's all doom and gloom and panic, but I was really pleased with the team," was his crabby reply to the mildest of queries. Ball's invective, delivered in his famous tinder-dry shrill, was the most passionate interlude on a wretchedly cold afternoon of non-football.

The first half was supremely desolate, with only Quinn supplying some levity as he twice sent stewards scampering to retrieve a ball which should have been in Coventry's net. Kinkladze, as routine, played as if on a magic carpet but his team-mates were strictly terrestrial; in fact, some of his prods and stabs were clearly Russian to the journeymen at his heel.

The draughty stands at Maine Road rung with groans and moans at half-time, the seagulls circling overhead providing a greater spectacle. Both teams had played ambitiously enough but basic ineptitude had so often ravaged their best-laid plans.

Ball was later to claim that young Martin Phillips had "lit up Maine Road" when he came on as a substitute but it was, in truth, more 40-watt than 100. Phillips at least gave them shape, as Salako did for Coventry when he raised sufficient valour to run for goal in earnest.

A double act which had hitherto bordered on comedy, Quinn and Rösler, suddenly found a punch-line of a goal so tidy that it served to further amplify the previous disarray. Rösler impudently removed his shirt, waved it at the crowd, and, like waking from a dream, soberly pulled it back on as Coventry waited to kick off: this was Manchester, not Broadway, so go easy on the theatricals, lad. Coventry's Dion Dublin, who had revealed in the programme that he shaves his head twice a day, pierced the home side's new poise when he put his burnished dome to a consummate cross from Hall. It was barely deserved. Coventry had been dogged, sure, Dublin and Burrows especially, but torpid outside their own half of the field.

Ball: bad-tempered

Afterwards, Ron Atkinson, the Coventry manager, was wonderfully agreeable. A smile, a wink to recognise faces among the press posse, another chew of the gum. "We've had four points out of City this season, and they could be big, big points at the finish. We played intelligently, we sealed off the little spaces." He was candid enough to admit that avoiding defeat had been the objective.

Ball, meanwhile, maintained his choler. Did he think Nigel Clough would improve the team? "He won't make any difference," he answered sarcastically. "Then why did he sign him?" Ball looked skywards, lips pursed. "That's one of the most ridiculous questions of all time. He's top quality, he's a good player, what do you expect me to say?"

Manchester City were better than their manager's public relations, and a good deal less edgy. Sometimes their play is a pastiche of "total football", but some guile to complement the graft could make a wealth of difference. Ball will be discreetly making plans for Nigel.

MANCHESTER CITY (4-4-2): E Immel — N Summerbee, K Curle, K Symons, I Brightwell — S Lomas (sub: M Phillips, 51min), G Flitcroft, G Kinkladze, M Brown — U Rösler, N Quinn.

COVENTRY CITY (4-4-2): S Ogrizovic — A Pickering, B Borrows, R Shaw, M Hall — P Ndlovu, P Telfer, K Richardson, J Salako — D Dublin, N Whelan

Referee: R Hart

Woking's Trophy reign ends on controversial note

Carshalton Athletic	3
Woking	1

By Walter Gammie

CARSHALTON Athletic, of the Icis League, took advantage of Woking having two players sent off inside the first 20 minutes to send the holders of the FA Umbro Trophy for the past two seasons crashing to defeat in the first round at Colston Avenue on Saturday.

A thick layer of freshly-laid sand on the pitch had already done little for the rhythm of Woking's short-passing game when Lloyd Wye, their left back, was dismissed for bringing down John Ugbah as he broke clear of the defence.

As the wall lined up for the free kick, Clive Walker was hauled out for not retreating ten yards, made his feelings plain to Mark Halsey, the referee, and was booked. Three minutes later, the mists descended. Walker crashed late into Robson and a second booking sent him, still muttering, to the dressing-room.

That was it, really. Batty, the goalkeeper, denied Hazel and Ugbah, splendidly kept out a header by Vines only for Saunders to turn the ball back in and Salako to finally put Carshalton ahead. A header by Vines early in the second half sealed the match and Ugbah drove in a ferocious third before Steele pulled a goal back for Woking, who, typified by the tireless Thompson, never stopped running.

Winning the Vauxhall Conference may well be the Woking priority but bowing out of the Trophy hurt. They were rather less than charitable towards the referee. Nobody denied that someone as experienced as Walker should have known better. Wye's dismissal upset Batty, who was adamant that his team-mate had played the ball back to him before Ugbah went down.

Tucker, convinced that Vines was offside for the all-important goal, was booked for his protests — joining Crumplin and Codner. "The referee, all the officials in fact, were out of their depth," Colin Lippiatt, the Woking assistant manager, said.

In the circumstances, it was a memorable triumph for Carshalton rather than a glorious one.

CARSHALTON ATHLETIC (3-1-4-2): L Cleevely — E Saunders, P Dawson, P Clark — M Harmsworth — N Robson, J Ugbah, I Hazel (sub: M Wiggins, 78min), P Underwood — F Vines (sub: S Bassey, 78), A Salako

WOKING (4-3-1-2): L Batty — J Crumplin, M Tucker, C Fielder, L Wye — S Thompson, R Codner, D Timothy (sub: D Hay, 61) — S Steele — J Hunter, C Walker

Referee: M Halsey

☐ Telford United, of the Conference, finished with only eight men as they went down to a 3-1 defeat to Burton Albion, of the Beazer Homes League, in their Trophy tie at Eton Park. Brian Coddington, the referee, sent off Justin Ellitts, Mark Kearney and Kym Wassell, all for second bookable offences. He issued 13 yellow cards and was escorted off the pitch by police at the final whistle. Telford went ahead through Gray after 65 minutes but were overwhelmed by goals from Rhodes, Devaney and Payne.

[مصدر من الأصل]

Beardsley's enduring brilliance buoys Newcastle

Newcastle United 2
Bolton Wanderers 1

By Pat Gibson

ONE goal was all that separated Newcastle United, at the top of the FA Carling Premiership, from Bolton Wanderers, at the bottom. But its effect was sufficient to send a shiver through the pursuing pack which was as chilling as the northeasterly blast which whipped across St James' Park.

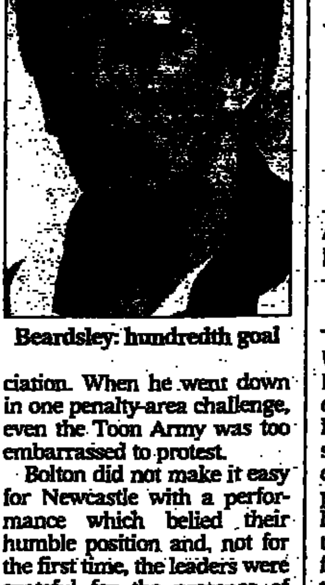
With Manchester United, Liverpool and the rest preoccupied with the FA Cup on Saturday, Newcastle will be taking a winter break which their manager, Kevin Keegan, says could not have come at a better time as they look to consolidate their 12-point lead.

Keegan does not share the view of his chairman, Sir John Hall, that their departure from the two cup competitions is the best thing that could have happened to them, because the manager would still like to be chasing a treble, but it does give him the time to get key players like Ferdinand, Howey and Gillespie fit again. It also gives him the chance to concentrate on strengthening his squad with at least one significant signing.

Keegan would not comment on speculation sweeping Tyneside on Saturday night that he had already signed Faustino Asprilla, of Parma, for £6 million, let alone talk about all the other players with whom Newcastle have been linked, including David Batty, of Blackburn Rovers, Trevor Sinclair, of Queens Park Rangers, and, most recently, Jean-Pierre Papin, of Bayern Munich, who is said to be ready to join them for £1 million.

However, he did say: "We definitely want to bring in another player. There are all sorts of rumours going around and every week I'm supposed to be signing somebody, but we will step up the search in the next ten days and try to add quality to the quality we already have. It's no good having a club where, if everybody is fit, you can win something, but if one player is missing, the whole thing collapses around you."

With that in mind, Keegan was happy enough with a twelfth successive Premiership home win which proved that Newcastle can cope without the likes of Ferdinand and Howey. Ginola, who looks ready for a spot of French leave, will soon be taking it, courtesy of the Football Association. When he went down in one penalty-area challenge, even the Toon Army was too embarrassed to protest.



Beardsley: hundredth goal

Bolton did not make it easy for Newcastle with a performance which belied their humble position and, not for the first time, the leaders were grateful for the presence of Beardsley, who laid on the first goal for Kitson and scored the winner with a thunderous volley after Peacock had headed on Watson's corner.

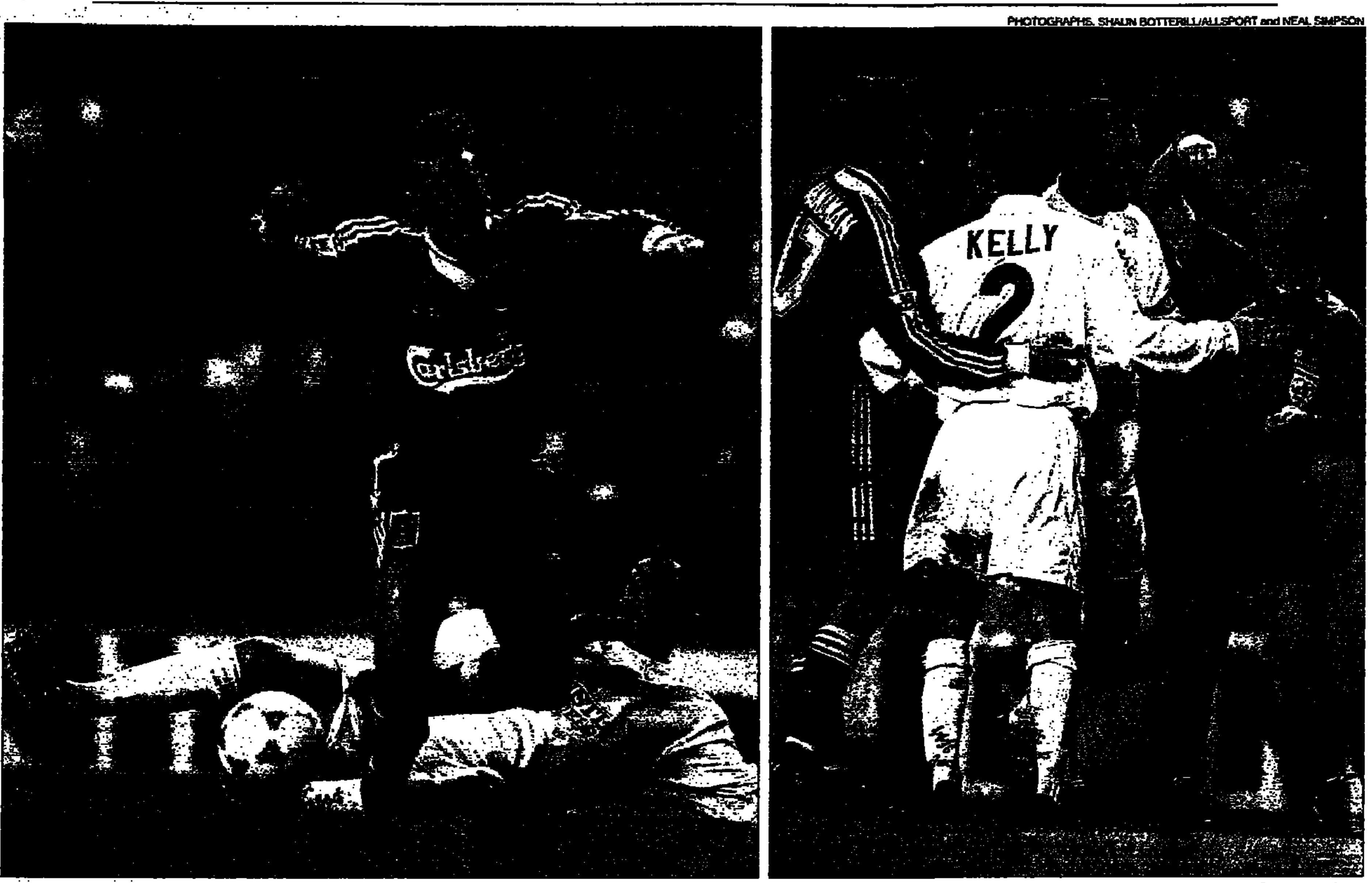
It was his hundredth league goal for the club and Keegan said: "I don't care who scores really but Peter's goals are always a bit special. He is a special person as well as a special player and there is no reason why we should not be standing here in two years' time talking about his 150th goal."

Bolton had equalised when Bergsson headed in from Sellars's free kick and would have had a point but for two magnificent saves by Srnicek from Sellars and Blake. "It may be a bit late in the season but you can see them getting out of trouble if they keep playing like that," Keegan said. "They are not going to play against sides of our quality every week."

NEWCASTLE UNITED (4-4-2): P Srnicek — W Barton, D Peacock, P Albert, J Beresford — S Watson, R Lee, L Clark, D Ginola — P Beardsley, P Kitson (sub: D Huckerby, 74min).
BOLTON WANDERERS (4-4-2): K Branagan — S Green (sub: S McAnespie, 86), G Bergsson, A Stubbs, J Phillips — D Lee, R Sneekes, S Sellars, S Curcic (sub: M Paatelainen, 53) — J McGinlay, N Blake (sub: A Todd, 78).
Referee: K Cooper (Pontypridd).

Peter Ball on a comprehensive but controversial Liverpool victory

PHOTOGRAPHS: SHAUN BOTTERILL/ALLSPORT and NEAL SIMPSON



Jones goes down under Kelly's challenge, left, and Durkin produces the red card despite the protests of McAllister, Kelly's Leeds United team-mate, and McManaman, of Liverpool

Leeds tripped up by letter of the law

Five goals, a sending-off, penalties given and refused, defensive errors, and a burgeoning forward partnership with 32 goals to its credit may be the recipe for a thrilling afternoon, but it was not quite like that at Anfield on Saturday, as Liverpool defeated Leeds United 5-0.

Howard Wilkinson, the Leeds United manager, is fond of saying that goals change games. Indeed they do, but sendings-off tend to change them even more, and while the first goal sparked a hitherto dull FA Carling Premiership match to life, the dismissal of Gary Kelly on the hour, for bringing down Rob Jones, was the turning point.

It was tempting to suggest that Paul Durkin had ruined a good game. That would be harsh because, by the letter of the law, the referee probably had little option, unless he had taken the one offered, tongue in cheek, by Roy Evans, the Liverpool manager. "It's supposed to be a goalscoring opportunity, but it was Rob Jones that was through, so maybe he should take that into consideration," Evans said. Jones has never scored for Liverpool. Durkin, though, did what he had to do, leaving the law itself in the dock.

"Football is about being fair," Wilkinson said. "Players are expected to be fair, and the rules are there to make sure it is fair, but at the moment I think you've got rules there which are unjust.

"Gary had no intention of intentionally preventing a goalscoring chance. He went for the ball. He hasn't got it, so he's committed an error of judgment which results in a penalty, and that's right, but the sending-off is too much."

Evans was equally sure that the punishment did not fit the crime. "It's a harsh rule," he said. "For anybody who makes an attempt to get the ball in the box, a penalty is enough punishment. A sending-off is over the top. If there's any great intent, if he deliberately trips him, that's different. But you've got probably the two quickest lads on the pitch, and it's just a matter of a split second."

Evans is on even stronger ground when he suggests that the law, set in place to encourage goalscoring opportunities, might be proving counterproductive. It was Liverpool's first penalty of the season. They should have had one ten minutes earlier, when Wetherall shoved Jones over on the other occasion that the full back got behind the Leeds defence. Unaccountably, Durkin refused that appeal. "We've had a few turned down," Evans said, "but maybe the rule which makes referees send players off puts them off awarding penalties, because they hate sending players off."

It is difficult to have too much sympathy for Leeds. A side which has to rely on a 36-year-old striker on loan from an Endsleigh Insurance League first division club's reserve team, and which sets out to contain, does not find a ready ear for hard-luck stories.

Their supporters also harden the heart. Bored, they reverted to type and sang their deplorable song about Munich, presumably thinking that it would be welcome on Merseyside. Instead, the Kop received it in disapproving silence, punctuated by angry whistles. They may hate Manchester United, but not that much.

After 20 minutes, the Leeds followers had another refrain, chants of "Deano" giving their view on the decision to prefer Lee Chapman, who was looking out of his depth, to Brian Deane. Chapman, indeed, played his part by omission in the first Liverpool goal, nobody picking up Ruddock as he sailed through the defence on a late run to meet Jones's cross for a free header after a corner unnecessarily conceded. So much for containment.

One down, Leeds started to play with enough purpose and urgency to bring the game to life, and for the last 15 minutes of the first half, James was the busier goalkeeper. They also began the second half well, and there was the promise of an exciting match in the great tradition of these sides. Then Kelly went, Fowler scored from the spot, and the game was as good as over.

It is said that it is difficult to play against ten men, but not for a good side leading 2-0. Liverpool took over completely as the partnership of Collymore and Fowler came into its own. After a rocky start, they are now looking good enough for the departure of Ian Rush — possibly to Sunderland, initially on loan — to be regarded with some equanimity, and Terry Venables, the England coach, duly rewarded them with a call-up yesterday. "It's a very exciting partnership," Evans said.

"They're the best since Keegan and Toshack," Ruddock said, presumably ignoring Dalglish and Rush on the grounds that neither was a big man. But then Collymore is a bit more than a static target-man like Toshack (or Chapman).

Soon after Kelly's departure, Collymore's thrilling burst laid on a second goal for Fowler, and in the dying minutes they rubbed salt in Leeds's wounds as Collymore got the goal he deserved and then Ruddock popped up to claim his second.

LIVERPOOL (3-4-1-2): D James — J Scales, N Ruddock, P Babb — J McAteer, M Thomas, J Barnes, R Jones — S McManaman — R Fowler, S Collymore.
LEEDS UNITED (4-4-2): M Beeney — G Kelly, D Wetherall, C Palmer, N Worthington — T Brolin (sub: B Deane, 71min), M Ford, G McAllister, G Speed — L Chapman (sub: A Couzens, 61), R Wallace.
Referee: P Durkin.

PREMIERSHIP AT A GLANCE

		Played	Points	Goal diff	Recent form
1	Newcastle	23	54	+26	WLWWW
2	Liverpool	22	42	+25	WDWDW
3	Manchester Utd	23	42	+14	LWWLD
4	Tottenham	24	41	+9	DLWWL
5	Aston Villa	22	39	+13	WLWDW
6	Blackburn	24	38	+11	WWDWW
7	Arsenal	24	37	+8	WLLWL
8	Nottm Forest	23	37	+1	WWLWL
9	Everton	24	36	+9	WLWDW
10	Chelsea	24	[illegible]	0	LDWDW
11	Leeds	[illegible]	[illegible]	-2	WLDWL
12	Middlesbrough	[illegible]	33	0	LLLLL
13	Sheffield Wed	23	[illegible]	-3	DLWDL
14	Wimbledon	24	[illegible]	-13	WWLLW
15	West Ham	21	23	-10	LWLLL
16	Southampton	23	23	-11	DDDLW
17	Coventry	23	20	-16	WWDLD
18	Manchester City	[illegible]	20	-20	LLWLD
19	QPR	24	18	-18	LLLLL
20	Bolton	24	13	-23	LLLWL

Weekly change ▨ Up ▨ Stayed the same ☐ Down

Substitute enters fray and changes everything

Southampton 2
Middlesbrough 1

By Nick Szczepanik

FOOTBALL, thank goodness, retains its capacity to surprise. An unpromising fixture at first glance ("0-0 written all over it" as some visiting supporters assured me), this match produced its share of memorable moments, even if the Middlesbrough players who provided most of them, notably the goalkeeper, Gary Walsh, finished on the losing side.

With Juninho out injured, 44 minutes passed forgettably: only Magilton offered any intelligence to counter northeastern industry. Then Barmby played a quick pass inside to Wilkinson, and raced off for a return ball. Wilkinson duly obliged. Cox dummied, and Barmby struck his shot briskly past Beasant's dive. What, one wondered, was a nice goal like that doing in a game like this?

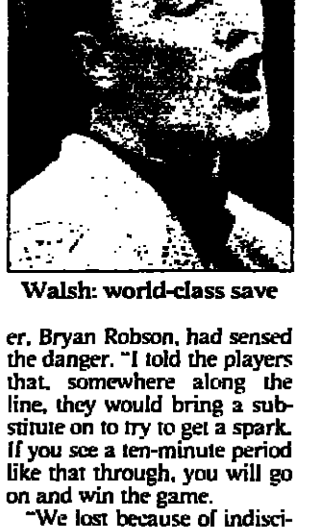
At any rate, it roused Southampton to an instant response. Walters, ring-rusty on his first appearance since signing from Liverpool, but still capable of delivering high-quality crosses, centred for Shipperley to head powerfully for the bottom corner. Walsh, diving to his left, somehow scooped the ball out in an echo of Banks's most famous save. "Their keeper was inspirational," Dave Merrington, the Southampton manager, said. "That first save was world class."

For a while, it seemed that the home side's best chance had gone, especially when Monkou mocked the perceived wisdom about superior Dutch technique with a hopeless hack at a bouncing ball only six yards out.

The introduction of a Southampton substitute, Watson, however, began 12 second-half minutes that changed everything. Walsh threw himself again to palm away Le Tissier's volley, but after 64 minutes was powerless to prevent Shipperley hitting Watson's cross into the roof of the net from six yards.

Next, Wilkinson's free header was fumbled on to a post by Beasant and, almost immediately, Whelan departed after his second unnecessary yellow-card offence. From the free kick, the ball reached Dodd, whose curling shot forced Walsh to yet another spectacular save. Unfortunately for him and Middlesbrough, the ball dropped kindly for Hall, who headed into the unguarded net.

The visitors' player-manager, Bryan Robson, had sensed the danger. "I told the players that, somewhere along the line, they would bring a substitute on to try to get a spark. If you see a ten-minute period like that through, you will go on and win the game.



Walsh: world-class save

"We lost because of indiscipline. It's hard enough playing away from home in the Premier League with 11 men, without going down to ten. He didn't just let himself down, he let his team-mates down. It's a little bit of inexperience as well — a good lesson for all my lads."

On the subject of Walsh's display, he was even more positive. "Fabulous saves," he said. "I think I've got two goalkeepers in the top ten in the country."

Merrington felt satisfaction that his side had more than matched another of the Premiership's wealthier clubs. "They've got a new ground; they've spent millions. Financially, we are in the basement — a big club in a small container. People tend to write us off, but our attitude and determination are absolutely first class; and we are a difficult side to play against." But not, on Saturday, too difficult to watch.

SOUTHAMPTON (4-4-2): D Beasant — J Dodd, R Hall, K Monkou, S Charlton — M Oakley (sub: G Watson, 58min), J Magilton, B Venison, M Walters — M Le Tissier, N Shipperley (sub: A Neilson, 85).
MIDDLESBROUGH (5-3-2): G Walsh — N Cox, N Pearson, S Vickers, P Whelan, C Morris — P Stamp (sub: K O'Halloran, 33), C Blackmore, A Moore (sub: C Hignett, 80) — N Barmby, P Wilkinson.
Referee: K Burge.

Wright's mastery goes unrewarded

Arsenal 1
Everton 2

By Keith Pike

UNLIKE Matthew Le Tissier, Ian Wright did not have most of the country screaming for his inclusion in the England side. Unlike him, too, Wright did not lapse into what appeared a prolonged sulk when his international days were terminated. Gifted players from opposite ends of the temperament spectrum, and you know which one you would rather have with you in the trenches.

Love him or loathe him, Wright can never be ignored. He wears his heart on his sleeve, and at Highbury on Saturday he had the captain's armband to go with it for the first time. Suitably inspired, he scored a goal of such exquisite skill that he hardly deserved to finish on the losing side. That he did cannot alter the fact that he remains one of the masters of the striker's art in the English domestic game.

As the final whistle condemned Arsenal to a somewhat unlucky FA Carling Premiership defeat, Wright kicked the air in frustration, and the majority of the Everton team walked out of their way to offer him a consoling hand. "It was a brilliant goal by one of the best in the business," Graham Stuart, whose equaliser set Everton up for their victory, said.

For all his flaws and volatility, Wright retains the admiration of his peers and the faith of his manager, Bruce Rioch, who made him captain in the absence of Tony Adams, one of six first-team players unavailable. "He was the right man for the job," Rioch said, casting doubts on stories of a bitter dressing-room row between the two after Arsenal's FA Cup defeat against Sheffield United on Wednesday.

Wright's goal came seven minutes from the end of a first half that Arsenal, for all their problems, had shaded. Jensen's ball forward seemed innocuous enough, but a dummy by Wright took him past Short, and as three Everton defenders lined up to tackle him on the edge of the area, Wright swerved right, then left, to open up a shooting chance. The ball flew, low and unstoppable, inside Southall's left-hand post. It was Wright's 139th goal in Arsenal's colours, putting him level with Jimmy Brain in third place in the club's all-time scoring list.

Stuart having restored parity early in the second half, and Southall having preserved it with fine saves from Bergkamp and Clarke, Kanchelskis won it for Everton eight minutes from time. With Helder, his supposed marker, day-dreaming, Kanchelskis received Horne's throw-in and beat Seaman with a 20-yard volley that dipped and swerved, but nonetheless went through Seaman's hands. "I would think that David would be a little disappointed," Rioch said. The manager, too — Kanchelskis was top of his wanted list in the summer.

ARSENAL (4-4-2): D Seaman — L Dixon, A Linighan, S Marshall, N Winterburn — A Clarke (sub: P Dickov, 86min), P Merson, J Jensen, G Helder — D Bergkamp, I Wright.
EVERTON (4-3-1-2): N Southall — B Horne, C Short, D Watson, G Ablett — A Kanchelskis, J Parkinson, J Ebbrell — G Stuart — D Ferguson, D Amokachi (sub: D Unsworth, 87).
Referee: M Bodenham.

Wimbledon's ten refuse to yield

Wimbledon 2
Queens Park Rangers . 1

By Alyson Rudd

SOMETIMES it is hard to believe that footballers practise anything. Penalties miss the target, corners swing out of play and free kicks are as successful as the Serious Fraud Office. So you can be sure teams do not spend complete afternoons fielding ten men against 11 in an effort to cope with, firstly, having a player sent off, and secondly, facing a side which is a player short.

If there were such practice sessions, Wimbledon would have a note for the teacher for exemption. Joe Kinnear's side has turned the phrase "and Wimbledon are down to ten men" into a tautology and so, when the inevitable happens, it barely brings a flicker to their eyelashes.

On Saturday, nine minutes into the second half, with Wimbledon already leading by Leonhardsen's well-executed goal, Harford was dismissed for a second bookable offence.

Naively, Rangers thought the dismissal marked a turning point for them. Hateley even equalised three minutes later. But Wimbledon are simply more comfortable with fewer players on the pitch and 15 minutes from time arrogantly ignored Rangers' offside trap, leaving Clarke with just Sommer to beat, which he did.

"I must think about starting with ten," Kinnear said, not for the first time. When Manchester United travel to Selhurst Park in two weeks' time, Holdsworth, Harford, Kimble, Reeves and Earle will be ineligible for Wimbledon.

Steve Dunn, the referee, raised his yellow card 11 times. Just as we can become immune to violence on the television and almost expect a serial killer to pop up on *Blue Peter*, every time the whistle blew, a booking was issued as standard and nobody seemed to care.

The deterrent element of bookings is being lost; punish a boy for grinning in assembly in the same way as the boy who throws the punch in the playground, and the general tone will just drop.

The best referees try to clean the slate and set a new moral tone. Once Holdsworth and Sommer had squared up to each other earlier in the game, Dunn clearly felt he was dealing with a bunch of reprobates and a word to the wise thereafter was totally inappropriate.

"I don't think there's enough communication between footballers and officials," Ray Wilkins, the Rangers manager, said.

Instead of another set of Draconian guidelines next season, perhaps Fifa might try helping to put players and referees back on the same planet.

WIMBLEDON (4-4-2): N Sullivan — K Cunningham, A Reeves, C Perry, A Kimble — M Harford, R Earle, O Leonhardsen, M Gayle (sub: E Ekoku, 46min; sub: N Ardley, 90) — A Clarke, D Holdsworth.
QUEENS PARK RANGERS (4-4-2): J Sommer — D Bardsley, A McDonald, S Yates, T Challis (sub: G Goodridge, 81) — T Sinclair, N Quashie, S Barker, M Brazier — B Allen (sub: D Dichio, 67), M Hateley.
Referee: S Dunn.

Bohinen brings the best out of Rovers

Blackburn Rovers 3
Sheffield Wednesday 0

By Ian Rodgers

HOW on earth did it happen? Blackburn are fifth in the FA Carling Premiership and a meagre four points behind Liverpool and Manchester United, who look Newcastle United's principal rivals.

Rovers were almost a laughing-stock in the first half of the season, but events have taken a new twist at Ewood Park. Before this game, Alan Shearer received an award for becoming the first player to score 100 goals in the Premiership. It would be simplistic to credit the Rovers revival to the work of Shearer, but the England striker has registered his mark in every home league game this season.

The record was maintained when he found space behind the Sheffield Wednesday defence after 27 minutes and connected with a cross from Stuart Ripley. "He scores against everybody, doesn't he?" David Pleat, the Wednesday manager, could only shrug later.

Indeed, the Premiership's leading scorer would have contributed more but for the excellent defensive display of a rejuvenated Des Walker.

Shearer might be the obvious talent in this Blackburn side but it was their midfield which has been responsible for turning the season round. Lars Bohinen arrived at Ewood Park in the autumn and has restored enthusiasm to a dispirited team. His right-sided combination with his Norwegian compatriot, Henning Berg, has produced stability and their link-up on the half-hour fashioned a second goal, Bohinen placing Berg's pass beyond Chris Woods.

The defensive reliability of Bohinen has also allowed Tim Sherwood more freedom in central midfield, whereas previously the Blackburn captain had appeared confined by the limitations of others.

On the left flank, Kevin Gallacher looked lively. The former Coventry City man was playing only his third league game of the season, but his contribution was as vital as Shearer's. The point was not lost on Pleat. "Our full backs didn't get as far forward as we wanted," Pleat said. "We should have been running Gallacher right the way back." Gallacher sealed the victory six minutes from the end when he lifted a deflected shot from Shearer over Woods.

At half-time, Pleat had replaced the ineffective Chris Waddle with the Yugoslav, Darko Kovacevic, who immediately fed Marc Degryse twice within one early second-half minute. But the Belgian failed to convert the opportunities. "Another good little experience for him," Pleat said. And a frustrating one.

Ray Harford, the Blackburn manager, did not appear at the post-match press conference. On an afternoon when his side's performance spoke volumes, he did not really have to add anything.

BLACKBURN ROVERS (4-4-2): T Flowers — J Kenna, C Coleman, C Hendry, H Berg — K Gallacher, T Sherwood, L Bohinen, S Ripley (sub: N Gudmundsson, 78min) — A Shearer, M Newell (sub: W McKinlay, 66).
SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY (5-3-1-1): C Woods — D Stefanovic (sub: L Briscoe, 57), P Atherton, S Nicol, D Walker, I Nolan — M Degryse, G Whittingham, G Hyde — C Waddle (sub: D Kovacevic, 45; sub: M Bright, 79) — D Hirst.
Referee: G Willard.

ARSENAL (1) 1 **EVERTON** (0) 2
Wright 38 — Stuart 50, Kanchelskis 84
38,275

Arsenal: D Seaman, L Dixon, A Linighan, S Marshall, N Winterburn, A Clarke (sub: P Dickov, 66min), P Merson, J Jensen, G Helder, D Bergkamp, I Wright.
Booked: Jensen.
Everton: N Southall, B Horne, C Short, D Watson, G Ablett, A Kanchelskis, J Parkinson, J Ebbrell, G Stuart, D Ferguson, D Amokachi (sub: D Unsworth, 87).
Booked: Horne, Ferguson.
Referee: M Bodenham.

BLACKBURN (2) 3 **SHEFFIELD WED** (0) 0
Shearer 28, Bohinen 31, Gallacher 85
24,732

Blackburn Rovers: T Flowers, J Kenna, C Coleman, C Hendry, H Berg, K Gallacher, T Sherwood, L Bohinen, S Ripley (sub: N Gudmundsson, 78min), A Shearer, M Newell (sub: W McKinlay, 66).
Sheffield Wednesday: C Woods, D Stefanovic (sub: L Briscoe, 57), P Atherton, S Nicol, D Walker, I Nolan, M Degryse, G Whittingham, G Hyde, C Waddle (sub: D Kovacevic, 45; sub: M Bright, 79), D Hirst.
Referee: G Willard.

CHELSEA (0) 1 **NOTT'M FOREST** (0) 0
Spencer 55
24,482

Chelsea: K Hitchcock, M Duberry, D Lee, S Clarke, D Petrescu, R Gullit, E Newton, T Phelan, D Wise, J Spencer (sub: G Peacock, 79min), M Hughes (sub: P Furlong, 89).
Booked: Wise, Lee, Duberry.
Nottingham Forest: M Crossley, D Lyttle, C Cooper, S Chettle, S Pearce, S Stone, S Gemmill (sub: J Lee, 83), C Bart-Williams, I Woan, K Campbell, B Roy.
Booked: Chettle, Gemmill, Lee, Stone.
Referee: J Winter.

LIVERPOOL (1) 5 **LEEDS** (0) 0
Ruddock 27, 90; Fowler 62 (pen), 68; Collymore 89
40,254

Liverpool: D James, J Scales, N Ruddock, P Babb, J McAteer, M Thomas, J Barnes, R Jones, S McManaman, R Fowler, S Collymore.
Booked: Ruddock.
Leeds United: M Beeney, G Kelly, D Wetherall, C Palmer, N Worthington, T Brolin (sub: B Deane, 71min), M Ford, G McAllister, G Speed, L Chapman (sub: A Couzens, 61), R Wallace.
Booked: Brolin. Sent off: Kelly (61).
Referee: P Durkin.

MANCHESTER CITY (0) 1 **COVENTRY** (0) 1
Rosler 55 — Dublin 66
25,710

Manchester City: E Immel, N Summerbee, K Curle, K Symons, I Brightwell, S Lomas (sub: M Phillips, 51min), G Flitcroft, G Kinkladze, M Brown, U Rosler, N Quinn.
Booked: Symons, Brown.
Coventry City: S Ogrizovic, A Pickering, B Borrows, R Shaw, M Hall, P Ndlovu, P Telfer, K Richardson, J Salako, D Dublin, N Whelan.
Booked: Whelan.
Referee: R Hart.

NEWCASTLE (2) 2 **BOLTON** (1) 1
Kitson 9, Beardsley 37 — Bergsson 19
36,543

Newcastle United: P Srnicek, W Barton, D Peacock, P Albert, J Beresford, S Watson, R Lee, L Clark, D Ginola, P Beardsley, P Kitson (sub: D Huckerby, 74min).
Booked: Beresford.
Bolton Wanderers: K Branagan, S Green (sub: S McAnespie, 86), G Bergsson, A Stubbs, J Phillips, D Lee, R Sneekes, S Sellars, S Curcic (sub: M Paatelainen, 53), J McGinlay, N Blake (sub: A Todd, 75).
Referee: K Cooper (Pontypridd).

SOUTHAMPTON (0) 2 **MIDDLESBROUGH** (1) 1
Shipperley 64, Hall 71 — Barmby 44
15,151

Southampton: D Beasant, J Dodd, R Hall, K Monkou, S Charlton, M Oakley (sub: G Watson, 59min), J Magilton, B Venison, M Walters, M Le Tissier, N Shipperley (sub: A Neilson, 85).
Booked: Walters.
Middlesbrough: G Walsh, N Cox, N Pearson, S Vickers, P Whelan, C Morris, P Stamp (sub: K O'Halloran, 33), C Blackmore, A Moore (sub: C Hignett, 80), N Barmby, P Wilkinson.
Booked: Whelan, O'Halloran.
Sent off: Whelan (70).
Referee: K Burge.

WIMBLEDON (1) 2 **QPR** (0) 1
Leonhardsen 40, Clarke 74 — Hateley 57
9,123

Wimbledon: N Sullivan, K Cunningham, A Reeves, C Perry, A Kimble, M Harford, R Earle, O Leonhardsen, M Gayle (sub: E Ekoku, 46min; sub: N Ardley, 80), A Clarke, D Holdsworth.
Booked: Cunningham, Holdsworth, Ekoku, Harford. Sent off: Harford (58).
Queens Park Rangers: J Sommer, D Bardsley, A McDonald, S Yates, T Challis (sub: G Goodridge, 81), T Sinclair, N Quashie, S Barker, M Brazier, B Allen (sub: D Dichio, 67), M Hateley.
Booked: Bardsley, Sommer, McDonald, Challis, Sinclair, Allen.
Referee: S Dunn.

Yesterday

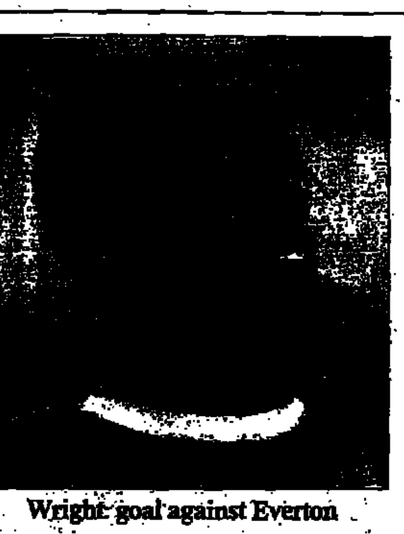
ASTON VILLA (1) 2 **TOTTENHAM** (1) 1
McGrath 23, Yorke 79 — Fox 28
35,666

Aston Villa: M Bosnich, G Charles, A Wright, G Southgate, P McGrath, U Ehiogu, D Yorke, M Draper, S Milosevic, T Johnson (sub: I Taylor, 85min), A Townsend.
Tottenham Hotspur: I Walker, D Austin, J Edinburgh, S Nethercott, C Calderwood, R Rosenthal, R Fox, D Caskey, S Campbell, E Sheringham, C Armstrong.
Referee: G Poll.

WEST HAM UNITED v MANCHESTER UNITED

Upton Park has been an unhappy hunting ground for Manchester United — "we have lost two titles there and I don't intend to make it a third," Alex Ferguson, the United manager, says. Tonight, United, who have won only two of their last nine Premiership games, make important changes with David Beckham back from suspension.

West Ham are desperate to win after four defeats in five games. With Ilie Dumitrescu awaiting a work permit, Tony Cottee and Iain Dowie vie for the chance to partner the Romanian.



Wright: goal against Everton

	Lge	Cup	Euro	Total
Shearer (Blackburn)	20	5	1	26
Ferdinand (Newcastle)	19	4	0	23
Fowler (Liverpool)	18	3	0	21
Sheringham (Tottenham)	14	6	0	20
Wright (Arsenal)	10	8	0	18
Yeboah (Leeds)	10	2	3	15
Armstrong (Tottenham)	8	5	0	13
Hirst (Sheff Wed)	11	1	0	12
Holdsworth (Wimbledon)	8	4	0	12
Dublin (Coventry)	11	0	0	11
Scholes (Man Utd)	7	3	1	11

THE flurry of transfer activity in January for goalscorers reveals nervousness among teams at the foot of the goals table — with good reason. Bolton may be bottom of the FA Carling Premiership but they are ten goals to the good over the club with the worst scoring record, Manchester City, on a mere 13. Both have bought recently, as have Coventry, with 29 goals — but defensive shortcomings may be more critical for the Sky Blues. West Ham and Southampton, also mindful of their goal shortages (22), are evident by their transfer dealings. The form teams are Sheffield Wednesday and Liverpool, with 19 goals in the last two months. That has catapulted the Merseysiders over Newcastle as top goal scorers. One underachiever with a lofty league placing is Aston Villa, on 28 goals — that position is down to a more impressive defensive statistic of 16 goals conceded.

JULIAN DESBOROUGH

	For	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan
1 Liverpool	46	5	8	11	3	9	10
2 Newcastle	45	9	5	13	6	7	5
3 Manchester Utd	41	8	6	9	9	8	1
4 Blackburn	37	4	6	6	7	10	4
5 Everton	35	4	5	3	7	10	6
6 Nottm Forest	33	6	8	8	4	6	3
7 Sheffield Wed	33	4	4	1	5	14	5
8 Wimbledon	33	9	4	2	4	10	4
9 Tottenham	33	8	11	2	6	5	6
10 Arsenal	32	4	6	5	6	7	4
11 Leeds	30	6	8	8	3	8	2
12 Coventry	29	4	3	1	6	13	2
13 Aston Villa	28	5	7	1	6	6	3
14 Middlesbrough	28	3	6	2	3	9	3
15 Chelsea	25	2	7	2	3	7	4
16 Bolton	23	5	3	4	2	5	4
17 West Ham	22	4	3	3	5	6	1
18 Southampton	22	4	3	4	4	4	3
19 QPR	18	1	6	3	1	5	2
20 Manchester City	13	2	1	0	4	3	3

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pt.	Goal diff
		HOME					AWAY						
1 Newcastle	23	12	0	0	28	6	5	3	3	17	13	54	+26
2 Liverpool	23	9	2	1	32	8	3	4	4	14	13	42	+25
3 Man Utd	23	8	4	0	24	9	4	2	5	17	18	42	+14
4 Tottenham	24	6	3	3	17	12	5	5	2	16	12	41	+9
5 Aston Villa	22	8	3	1	16	7	5	3	4	13	9	39	+13
6 Blackburn	24	10	1	1	32	8	1	4	7	5	18	38	+11
7 Arsenal	24	6	4	2	20	12	4	3	5	12	12	37	+8
8 Nottm For	23	7	4	0	19	8	2	6	4	14	24	37	+1
9 Everton	24	6	3	3	21	12	4	3	5	14	14	36	+9
10 Chelsea	24	5	5	2	15	12	4	4	4	10	13	36	0
11 Leeds	23	7	2	3	16	10	3	3	5	14	22	35	-2
12 Middlesbro	24	7	2	3	20	12	2	4	6	6	14	33	0
13 Sheff Wed	23	4	4	4	21	19	2	4	5	12	17	26	-3
14 Wimbledon	24	3	4	5	17	20	3	2	7	16	26	24	-13
15 West Ham	21	3	3	3	10	13	3	2	7	12	19	23	-10
16 Soton	23	4	4	3	11	10	1	4	7	11	23	23	-11
17 Coventry	23	3	4	5	16	19	1	4	6	13	26	20	-16
18 Man City	23	4	4	4	8	9	1	1	9	5	24	20	-20
19 QPR	24	3	3	6	12	19	2	0	10	6	17	18	-18
20 Bolton	24	3	3	6	9	16	0	1	11	14	30	13	-23

FIRST DIVISION

BARNSLEY (0) 1 **C PALACE** (1) 1
Liddell 59 — Gordon 13
6,820

CHARLTON (3) 4 **WEST BROM** (0) 1
Robinson 4, 16; Stuart 44; Mortimer 64 (pen) — Hunt 49 (pen)
11,864

GRIMSBY (1) 1 **MILLWALL** (0) 2
Livingstone 28 — Rae 62 (pen), 66
5,218

HUDDERSFIELD (0) 0 **OLDHAM** (0) 0
13,013

IPSWICH (1) 2 **BIRMINGHAM** (0) 0
Milton 23, 57
12,540

NORWICH (0) 0 **LUTON** (1) 1
Guentchev 33 (pen)
12,474

PORT VALE (0) 1 **DERBY CO** (1) 1
Naylor 76 — Sturridge 44
11,947

READING (0) 1 **STOKE** (0) 0
Gooding 67
8,092

SHEFFIELD UTD (0) 1 **WATFORD** (0) 1
Tuttle 55 — Bazeley 80
12,558

SOUTHEND (0) 2 **PORTSMOUTH** (1) 1
McNally 71, Tilson 84 — Hall 41
5,560

WOLVES (1) 2 **TRANMERE** (0) 1
Bull 35, Goodman 67 — Aldridge 55
24,173

Yesterday

LEICESTER (0) 0 **SUNDERLAND** (0) 0
16,130

Sent off: G Hall (Sunderland) 87

SECOND DIVISION

BLACKPOOL (1) 3 **BRISTOL CITY** (0) 0
Morrison 34, Ellis 58, Preece 73 (pen)
4,838

Sent off: K Nugent (Bristol City) 19

BOURNEMOUTH (1) 3 **BRADFORD** (1) 1
Jones 13, Holland 56, Robinson 58 — Stallard 33

BRENTFORD (1) 2 **YORK** (0) 0
Bates 16, Taylor 46
3,915

BRIGHTON (1) 1 **PETERBOROUGH** (1) 2
Munday 42 (pen) — Shaw 16, 90
5,572

BRISTOL R (0) 1 **CARLISLE** (1) 1
Stewart 70 — Reeves 14
5,196

CHESTERFIELD (1) 1 **OXFORD UTD** (0) 0
Lormor 12
4,589

CREWE (2) 2 **WYCOMBE** (0) 0
Rivers 37, Lennon 45
4,150

NOTTS CO (0) 1 **WREXHAM** (0) 0
Arkins 72
5,014

ROTHERHAM (0) 1 **BURNLEY** (0) 0
Berry 85
4,018

SHREWSBURY (1) 1 **SWANSEA** (1) 2
Stevens 26 — Heggs 11, Cornforth 76
6,532

STOCKPORT (0) 0 **WALSALL** (1) 1
Houghton 27
5,870

SWINDON (0) 3 **HULL** (0) 0
Thorne 48, Grant 68, Horlock 81
8,118

THIRD DIVISION

BARNET (1) 1 **HEREFORD** (1) 3
Hodges 44 — Stoker 4, Cross 54, White 80
1,835

BURY (0) 0 **NORTHAMPTON** (0) 1
White 51
3,074

CAMBRIDGE (0) 1 **SCUNTHORPE** (0) 2
Turner 47 — McFarlane 52, Wilcox 90 (pen)
2,413

CARDIFF (0) 1 **ROCHDALE** (0) 0
Gardner 80
2,230

DARLINGTON (0) 1 **EXETER** (0) 0
Blake 52
1,723

HARTLEPOOL (1) 2 **CHESTER** (1) 1
Halliday 16, Tait 52 — Rimmer 25
1,864

LINCOLN (0) 0 **PRESTON** (0) 0
5,185

MANSFIELD (0) 1 **FULHAM** (0) 0
Slawson 65
2,025

PLYMOUTH (1) 1 **COLCHESTER** (0) 1
Baird 31 — Greene 88
5,800

SCARBOROUGH (0) 0 **DONCASTER** (0) 2
Cramb 54, 89
1,661

Sent off: G Brabin (Doncaster) 69

TORQUAY (0) 2 **L ORIENT** (1) 1
Baker 52, Watson 90 — Hendon 10
2,212

Sent off: R Fearon (L Orient) 74

WIGAN (1) 2 **GILLINGHAM** (1) 1
Lancashire 6, Diaz 66 — Green 2
2,773

GOALSCORERS

First division: 17 Aldridge (Tranmere Rovers). 15 Goodman (Wolverhampton Wanderers). 14 Sturridge (Derby County); Roberts (Leicester City). 13 Hunt (West Bromwich), Hunt (Birmingham City). 12 Mathie (Ipswich Town); Gabbiadini (Derby County); Booth (Huddersfield Town), Rae (Millwall), Ward (Norwich City). 11 Freedman (Crystal Palace, 3 for Barnet), Phillips (Watford); Willems (Derby County); Bull (Wolverhampton).

Second division: 21 Nogan (Burnley), Barnes (York City). 19 Goater (Rotherham). 18 Stewart (Bristol Rovers). 16 Jones (Bournemouth). 15 Finney (Swindon Town), Reeves (Carlisle); White (Notts County) 14 Connolly (Wrexham); Martindale (Peterborough), Wilson (Walsall); Showler (Bradford City). 13 Lightbourne (Walsall) 12 Allison (Swindon Town); Armstrong (Stockport County).

Third division: 22 Dale (Cardiff City). 18 Saville (Preston North End); White (Hereford United) 17 Whitehall (Rochdale). 15 Butler (Gillingham, 11 for Cambridge United), Littlejohn (Plymouth Argyle); McFarlane (Scunthorpe) 13 Fortune-West (Gillingham), Stant (Bury); Adcock (Colchester United) 11 White (Northampton); Diaz (Wigan Athletic); Corazzin (Cambridge United); Rimmer (Chester); Bryson (Preston North End)

ABERDEEN (0) 1 **PARTICK** (0) 0
Dodds 59 (pen)
9,500

HIBERNIAN (0) 0 **MOTHERWELL** (0) 0
7,676

KILMARNOCK (0) 0 **CELTIC** (0) 0
15,716

RAITH (0) 1 **FALKIRK** (0) 0
Sinclair 70
4,123

RANGERS (0) 0 **HEARTS** (1) 3
Johnston 6, 61, 83
45,096

CLYDEBANK (0) 0 **G MORTON** (1) 1
Hawke 10
1,704

DUMBARTON (1) 1 **DUNDEE UTD** (2) 3
Ward 33 — Brewster 11, Shannon 30, McSwegan 74
1,354

DUNDEE (0) 1 **ST MIRREN** (1) 2
Charnley 66 — Fullarton 15, McMillan 88
2,698

HAMILTON (0) 0 **DUNFERMLINE** (0) 0
1,556

ST JOHNSTONE (0) 0 **AIRDRIE** (0) 0
2,761

SECOND DIVISION

BERWICK (0) 1 **EAST FIFE** (1) 2
Neil 67 — Beaton 25, Allan 50
382

Sent off: M Cowan (Berwick) 44

CLYDE (1) 2 **STRANRAER** (2) 2
Annand 32 (pen), Nisbet 85 — Crawford 16, McConnell 20 (og)
860

FORFAR (1) 1 **STIRLING** (3) 4
Mann 45 (pen) — Taggart 3, Bone 4, McLeod 10, McCormick 85
611

QUEEN OF SOUTH (1) 2 **AYR** (2) 2
Mallan 15, Harris 60 (pen) — Sharples 18, Hood 36
1,264

STENHOUSEMUIR (2) 3 **MONTROSE** (1) 1
Mathieson 18, 77, Fisher 44 — McGlashan 42
450

THIRD DIVISION

BRECHIN (1) 1 **ALBION** (0) 0
Ross 40
301

COWDENBEATH (1) 1 **ARBROATH** (2) 2
Meldrum 16 — Elliot 20, 30
225

EAST STIRLING (0) 1 **CALEY THIS** (3) 5
Lee 72 — Scott 15, Stewart 28, 44, 54, Ross 48
353

QUEEN'S PARK (0) 0 **ALLOA** (0) 0
535

ROSS CO (0) 0 **LIVINGSTON** (1) 1
McMartin 16
2,445

(abandoned half-time - power failure)

GOALSCORERS

Premier division: 17 Van Hooijdonk (Celtic) 16 Durie (Rangers). 14 McCoist (Rangers) 12 Collins (Celtic). 11 Dodds (Aberdeen) 10 Robertson (Hearts); Jackson (Hibernian). 9 Wright (Kilmarnock). 8 Wright (Hibernian): Cameron (Raith); Miller (Aberdeen); Salenko (Rangers); Gascoigne (Rangers); Booth (Aberdeen); Lennon (Raith).

First division: 13 Hawke (Greenock Morton). 12 Hamilton (Dundee) 11 O'Boyle (St Johnstone): Petrie (Dunfermline); Shaw (Dundee). 10 Lilley (Greenock Morton); Brewster (Dundee United); Shaw (Dunfermline). 9 Yardley (St Mirren, 2 for Cowdenbeath); Duffield (Airdrie); Grady (Clydebank); McIntyre (Airdrie). 8 Tosh (Dundee); Winters (Dundee United) 7 Eadie (Clydebank).

Second division: 20 McCormick (Stirling): 13 Irvine (Berwick), Annand (Clyde). 12 Mathieson (Stenhousemuir). 11 McGlashan (Montrose); Hutchison (Stenhousemuir) 10 Little (Stenhousemuir) 8 Bone (Stirling, 1 for St Mirren); Fraser (Berwick); Taggart (Stirling) 6 Grant (Stranraer): Harris (Queen of South). Mallan (Queen of South). 5 McLaren (Queen of South); Sprott (Stenhousemuir).

Third division: 18 Stewart (Caley Thistle). 13 Young (Livingston). 10 MacPherson (Ross County); Young (Albion); Milne (Ross County). 9 Scott (Cowdenbeath); Edgar (Queen's Park); McCormick (Arbroath); Moffat (Alloa). 8 Christie (Caley Thistle); Dwyer (East Stirling); Brand (Brechin) 7 Herchet (Caley Thistle). 6 Wood (Cowdenbeath); Grant (Ross County)

CONFERENCE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
		HOME					AWAY					
1 Macclesfield	25	9	2	2	19	10	7	2	3	22	18	52
2 Stevenage	23	7	3	2	30	12	7	3	1	26	13	48
3 Woking	22	8	2	0	21	5	6	1	5	24	23	45
4 Hednesford	23	6	2	4	20	13	8	0	3	21	10	44
5 Southport	24	6	3	3	25	13	6	2	4	26	23	41
6 Kidderminster	26	8	2	3	25	15	4	3	6	23	25	41
7 Gateshead	25	5	5	2	15	13	6	2	5	18	14	40
8 Farnborough	23	5	4	2	18	9	5	4	3	18	18	38
9 Bromsgrove	27	7	4	2	23	13	2	6	6	16	26	37
10 Northwich	24	6	1	5	22	21	4	5	3	20	19	36
11 Halifax	26	8	2	4	22	14	2	4	6	9	17	36
12 Kettering	27	7	4	2	26	14	2	3	9	21	38	34
13 Morecambe	23	9	0	4	34	23	1	3	6	11	23	33
14 Slough	25	3	4	7	23	31	7	0	5	16	16	31
15 Stalybridge	25	5	2	6	17	22	3	3	6	12	14	29
16 Welling	24	4	4	4	16	15	2	4	6	14	19	26
17 Altrincham	25	4	4	5	21	22	2	4	6	10	17	26
18 Bath	26	4	1	6	11	18	3	3	9	11	24	25
19 Dover	25	5	0	7	16	20	1	5	7	14	25	23
20 Runcorn	24	4	3	4	15	21	2	2	9	16	31	23
21 Telford	21	3	4	3	14	13	2	1	8	9	28	20
22 Dag & Red	27	3	8	6	20	26	1	2	9	6	32	20

Alves Antonio soars above the South African, Subusiso Nyathi, but the Angolans were beaten 1-0 in their African nations' cup match in Johannesburg

AFRICAN NATIONS CUP: South Africa 1, Angola 0; Zambia 5 Burkina Faso 1.

DUTCH LEAGUE: Heerenveen 1 PSV 3; Fortuna Sittard 0 Willem II Tilburg 0; Breda 1 FC Groningen 1; Vitesse Arnhem 2 RKC Waalwijk 1; FC Twente Enschede 0 Roda JC Kerkrade 3; FC Volendam 0 Feyenoord 3; FC Utrecht 1 Nijmegen 2; Sparta 3 Ajax 3. Leading positions: 1, Ajax Amsterdam, played 19, 52 points; 2, PSV Eindhoven, 20, 50; 3, Willem II Tilburg, 20, 33; 4, Feyenoord, 19, 32; 5, Heerenveen, 20, 32.

FRENCH LEAGUE: Le Havre 1 Paris Saint-Germain 1; Cannes 0 Auxerre 1; Monaco 2 Bordeaux 0; Gueugnon 1 Bastia 0; Guingamp 3 St Etienne 0; Lyon 2 Rennes 2; Strasbourg 1 Metz 2; Montpellier 2 Martigues 0; Lens 0 Nice 0; Nantes 1 Lille 2.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Paris SG	24	13	9	2	46	19	48
Metz	24	12	8	4	24	16	44
Auxerre	24	13	3	8	40	23	42
Lens	24	10	12	2	28	14	42
Monaco	24	11	6	7	37	27	39
Guingamp	24	9	9	6	20	17	36
Nantes	24	9	9	6	27	25	36
Bastia	24	10	5	9	33	30	35
Montpellier	24	9	7	8	32	29	34
Strasbourg	24	8	9	7	32	24	33
Rennes	24	8	9	7	27	28	33
Nice	24	9	5	10	26	26	32
Le Havre	24	7	7	10	21	31	28
Lyon	24	5	12	7	25	28	27
Bordeaux	24	7	4	13	24	34	25
St Etienne	24	5	10	9	27	38	25
Cannes	24	8	5	13	28	37	23
Lille	24	5	8	11	18	32	23
Gueugnon	24	4	10	10	18	29	22
Martigues	24	5	3	16	18	38	18

ITALIAN LEAGUE: Cagliari 4 Udinese 1; Cremonese 3 Juventus 3; AC Milan 1 Padova 0; Napoli 1 Bari 0; Parma 2 Atalanta 0; AS Roma 3 Sampdoria 1; Torino 0 Fiorentina 3; Vicenza 1 Inter Milan 1.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Milan	18	10	7	1	27	12	37
Fiorentina	18	11	3	4	33	19	36
Parma	18	9	7	2	29	16	34
Juventus	18	8	5	5	27	19	29
Roma	18	7	7	4	23	16	28
Lazio	17	7	5	5	31	19	26
Napoli	18	6	8	4	18	17	26
Inter	18	6	7	5	23	16	25
Vicenza	18	6	7	5	17	16	25
Udinese	18	7	4	7	22	24	25
Cagliari	18	7	2	9	17	25	23
Sampdoria	18	5	7	6	27	29	22
Atalanta	18	6	4	8	21	29	22
Torino	18	3	8	7	17	29	17
Bari	18	4	4	10	25	38	16
Piacenza	17	4	4	9	18	33	16
Padova	18	4	3	11	18	29	15
Cremonese	18	2	6	10	21	28	12

SPANISH LEAGUE: Valencia 2 Deportivo La Coruna 1; Real Madrid 1 Rayo Vallecano 2; Barcelona 1 Valladolid 0; Compostela 1 Celta Vigo 1; Real Betis 0 Merida 1; Real Oviedo 1 Zaragoza 1; Salamanca 2 Espanyol 2; Albacete 1 Sporting 3; Racing Santander 1 Athletic Bilbao 1.

Premier division: Bamber Bridge 0 Leek 0; Barrow 3 Droylsden 3; Frickley 4 Accrington Stanley 1; Knowsley 2 Spennymoor 0; Winsford 1 Buxton 1.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Bamber Bridge	27	15	9	3	56	26	54
Hyde Utd	26	14	6	6	55	24	48
Barrow	25	13	8	4	49	26	47
Guiseley	27	13	7	7	41	29	46
Boston	28	14	3	11	50	35	45
Gainsborough	25	12	8	5	37	24	44
Witton	26	13	4	9	42	38	43
Emley	25	12	4	9	37	30	40
Leek Town	27	8	10	9	37	32	34
Spennymoor	25	8	10	7	36	32	34
* Ac Stanley	26	9	9	8	36	37	33
B Auckland	25	9	6	10	33	37	33
Chorley	25	9	5	11	43	43	32
Blyth Sp	23	8	7	8	38	36	31
Marine	23	7	8	8	24	26	29
Knowsley	27	8	3	16	35	60	27
Winsford	22	6	8	8	22	34	26
Colwyn Bay	23	4	11	8	20	31	23
* Frickley	25	6	8	11	34	49	23
Droylsden	26	6	5	15	37	71	23
Buxton	27	4	8	15	24	55	20
Matlock	25	4	7	14	40	52	19

3 points deducted

First division: Atherton LR 0 Lincoln United 1; Eastwood Town 3 Fleetwood 0; Farsley Celtic 0 Congleton 2; Great Harwood 1 Worksop 2; Lancaster 2 Harrogate Town 1; Leigh 1 Netherfield 4, Warrington 2 Alfreton 2; Whitley Bay 3 Curzon Ashton 2; Workington 3 Bradford Park Avenue 2. League cup: Third round: Postponed: Hyde v Lancaster.

BEAZER HOMES

Premier division: Baldock 2 Gravesend and Northfleet 2; Hastings 5 Atherstone 1; Salisbury 2 Crawley 1: VS Rugby 4 Ilkeston 0

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Rushden & D	23	18	4	1	63	21	58
Gloucester	24	14	4	6	49	29	46
Halesowen	22	13	6	3	42	27	45
Cheltenham	24	14	3	7	48	36	45
Worcester	22	12	5	5	39	25	41
Gresley	23	11	5	7	35	29	38
Merthyr	24	12	2	10	44	42	38
Hastings	24	10	7	7	47	37	37
Burton	24	9	7	8	36	33	34
Chelmsford	24	9	7	8	28	31	34
Baldock	25	8	8	9	38	33	32
Cambridge	23	9	4	10	32	34	31
Newport AFC	21	8	5	8	29	31	29
Crawley	23	6	9	8	29	33	27
Salisbury	22	8	3	11	31	39	27
Gravesend & N	20	7	4	9	33	36	25
Sudbury Tn	20	6	5	9	32	34	23
Atherstone	22	5	6	11	36	48	21
Dorchester	21	5	4	12	33	37	19
VS Rugby	23	4	5	14	24	52	17
Ilkeston	23	4	5	14	29	59	17
Stafford	23	3	2	18	33	64	11

Midland division: Bilston 2 Redditch 2; Buckingham Town 3 Bridgnorth 0; Corby 1 Hinckley Town 1; Grantham 1 Paget 3, R C Warwick 2 Bedworth 1; Solihull 1 Leicester United 1; Stourbridge 3 Bury Town 2; Sutton Coldfield 0 Moor Green 5; Tamworth 1 Kings Lynn 0.

Southern division: Braintree 1 Newport IOW 2; Erith and Belvedere 2 Cinderford 2; Fareham 0 Ashford 3; Fisher 93 3 Clevedon 0; Fleet 2 Bashley 2; Forest Green 3 Margate 1; Havant 4 Tonbridge Angels 1; Sittingbourne 8 Poole 1; Weston-super-Mare 2 Witney 2; Weymouth 1 Yate 0.

Premier division: Bromley 2 Grays 2; Dulwich 1 Hendon 0; Harrow 1 Hitchin 2; Sutton United 2 Bishop's Stortford 1; Walton and Hersham 0 Chertsey 1; Yeading 1 Worthing 0.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Enfield	23	15	3	5	44	16	48
Dulwich	22	14	5	3	50	28	47
Boreham Wood	22	13	5	4	36	17	44
Yeovil	23	13	4	6	52	32	43
Carshalton	21	13	4	4	38	27	43
St Albans	23	11	7	5	41	20	40
Kingstonian	22	10	7	5	30	18	37
Harrow Bor	22	11	4	7	39	31	37
Hayes	22	9	9	4	32	19	36
Aylesbury	21	9	7	5	34	23	34
Sutton	22	8	8	6	40	30	32
Chertsey	23	9	3	11	28	37	30
B Stortford	22	7	7	8	29	28	28
Hitchin	21	7	5	9	21	31	26
Yeading	24	5	9	10	23	34	24
Worthing	22	5	5	12	28	45	20
Grays	21	4	7	10	27	36	19
Walton & H	21	5	2	14	21	40	17
Molesey	22	4	3	15	19	48	15
Hendon	20	3	5	12	16	36	14
Purfleet	18	2	6	10	19	35	12
Bromley	21	3	3	15	17	51	12

First division: Aldershot Town 5 Abingdon Town 1; Barking 1 Maidenhead United 1; Basingstoke 0 Uxbridge 1; Billericay 0 Wokingham 0; Chesham 0 Thame 0; Marlow 1 Heybridge Swifts 0; Ruislip Manor 0 Leyton Pennant 1; Tooting and Mitcham 3 Berkhamsted 2. Second division: Canvey Island 5 Egham 1; Chalfont St Peter 2 Dorking 2; Cheshunt 0 Croydon 5; Collier Row 1 Bedford Town 1; Hemel Hempstead 2 Leatherhead 2; Hungerford 1 Bracknell 2; Tilbury 2 Banstead 0; Ware 2 Metropolitan Police 0; Witham 2 Edgware 2; Wivenhoe 1 Saffron Walden 1. Third division: Camberley 0 Wingate and Finchley 2; Clapton 4 Southall 2; East Thurrock 0 Aveley 1; Epsom and Ewell 2 Harefield 0; Hornchurch 3 Harlow 5; Horsham 1 Hertford 0; Kingsbury 3 Northwood 1; Leighton 3 Lewes 0; Tring 3 Flackwell Heath 1; Wealdstone 4 Cove 0.

First round: Ashton United 1 Blyth Spartans 3; Bognor 1 Worcester 0; Boston 1 Chorley 1; Bromsgrove 1 Bishop Auckland 0; Burton 3 Telford 1; Cambridge City 1 Boreham Wood 2; Carshalton 3 Woking 1; Chelmsford 0 Newport AFC 1; Colwyn Bay 3 Altrincham 3; Dover 2 Cheltenham 2; Dudley 4 Halesowen 2; Farnborough 1 Slough 1; Gainsborough 4 Nuneaton 1; Gloucester 5 Staines 0; Halifax 2 Southport 1; Hayes 0 Enfield 0; Hednesford 1 Northwich 1; Kettering 1 St Albans 1; Kidderminster 0 Gateshead 0; Macclesfield 1 Runcorn 0; Marine 0 Hyde 0; Morecambe 2 Emley 2; Oxford City 1 Merthyr 2; Radcliffe 3 Matlock 2; Rothwell 2 Welling 2; Rushden and Diamonds 0 Purfleet 1; Stafford 1 Guiseley 1; Stalybridge 1 Gresley 1; Stevenage 3 Dagenham and Redbridge 2; Trowbridge 2 Sudbury 2; Wembley 2 Kingstonian 1; Bath 1 Yeovil 1.

NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Bootle 1 Nantwich 0; Chadderton 1 Rossendale 0; St Helens 0 Clitheroe 2; Salford 2 Maine Road 0; Skelmersdale 3 Eastwood Hanley 1

COMBINED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Chipstead 1 Peppard 4; Cobham 0 Farnham 1; Cranleigh 1 Bedfont 2; Eton Wick 1 Raynes Park Vale 0; Godalming and Guildford 4 Feltham 1; Horley 1 Reading 2; Merstham 3 Ashford 5; Viking Sports 2 Ash 3; Walton 2 Sandhurst 1; Westfield 0 DCA Basingstoke 1.

NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE: Premier division: Arnold 0 Armthorpe Welfare 1; Ashfield 5 Sheffield 2; Belper Town 0 Thackley 0; Brigg 3 Liversedge 0; Goole 2 Maltby MW 2; Hallam 1 Denaby 1; Hatfield Main 2 North Ferriby 0; Ossett Town 2 Hucknall 1; Pickering 2 Ossett Albion 1; Stocksbridge PS 0 Glasshoughton Welfare 1.

HIGHLAND LEAGUE: Brora 0 Buckie Thistle 0; Clachnacuddin 1 Keith 1; Deveronvale 4 Nairn County 0; Elgin 0 Peterhead 3; Forres Mechanics 4 Wick Academy 0; Fraserburgh 1 Cove 1; Lossiemouth 0 Huntly 3; Rothes 2 Fort William 0.

ENDSLEIGH MIDLAND COMBINATION: Premier division: Chelmsley 3 Coleshill 3; Coventry Sphinx 3 Alvechurch Villa 1; Handrahan Timbers 2 Highgate 2; Meir KA 5 Upton 0; Shirley 2 Southam 3; West Midland Fire Service 3 Northfield 3; Wellesbourne 1 Bloxwich 2.

ESSEX SENIOR LEAGUE: Premier division: Brentwood 2 Burnham Ramblers 3; East Ham 1 Maldon 7; Ford United 3 Concord 4; Great Wakering 2 Bowers 0; Sawbridgeworth 3 Eton Manor 0; Stansted 0 Southend Manor 1.

FEDERATION BREWERY NORTHERN LEAGUE: First division: Bedlington 1 Chester-le-Street 0; Consett 1 Murton 0; Crook 1 RTM Newcastle 0; Dunston Federation 7 Ferryhill 1; Durham 3 Billingham Synthonia 1; Guisborough 0 Peterlee 3; Shildon 3 Tow Law 0; West Auckland 1 Seaham Red Star 1; Whitby 5 Whickham 0.

GREAT MILLS LEAGUE: Premier division: Barnstaple 0 Calne 0; Bridport 3 Frome 1; Brislington 1 Bideford 0; Bristol Manor Farm 2 Tiverton 0; Crediton 1 Odd Down 3; Elmore 1 Westbury 3; Taunton 2 Chippenham 0.

HELLENIC LEAGUE: Premier division: Almondsbury 1 Banbury 0; Brackley 1 Cirencester 1; Carterton 1 Didcot 0; Fairford 0 Abingdon United 2; Kintbury 0 Endsleigh 5; Lambourn Sports 1 Shortwood 0; North Leigh 7 Highworth 1; Tuffley 1 Burnham 2.

HEREWARD SPORTS UNITED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Cogenhoe 2 Boston 2; Holbeach 1 Wootton 0; Kempston 0 Desborough 5; Long Buckby 2 Eynesbury 1; Mirrlees Blackstone 5 Wellingborough 2; Raunds 1 Stamford 1; St Neots 2 Bourne 2; Spalding 4 Newport Pagnell 1; S and L Corby 3 Potton 0; Stotfold 1 Northampton Spencer 0.

JEWSON EASTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Cornard 1 Great Yarmouth 1; Hadleigh 2 Clacton 2; Haverhill 0 Fakenham 3; Soham 1 Harwich and Parkeston 2; Stowmarket 0 Woodbridge 2; Sudbury 1 Newmarket 1; Sudbury 1 March 0; Tiptree 2 Lowestoft 7; Wisbech 2 Watton 2; Wroxham 5 Halstead 0. Postponed: Felixstowe v Diss.

JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE: First division: Lymington 1 Thatcham 2; Totton 0 Bournemouth 2; BAT 2 Wimborne 2; Bemerton Heath Harl 1 Whitchurch 2; Brockenhurst 2 Aerostructures 0; Christchurch 3 Eastleigh 2; Cowes Sports 1 Andover 0; East Cowes 2 Swanage and Herston 0; Petersfield 0 Ryde Sports 2; Portsmouth RN 0 Gosport 5.

NUCLEAR ELECTRIC KENT COUNTY LEAGUE: First division; Bond Sports 2 Rye 0; Broomfield 2 New Romney 1; Eynsford 4 Wellcome 2; Lydd 1 Tenterden 5; Maidstone Invicta 1 Ex Blues 2; Phoenix Sports 6 Empire 0; Platt 2 Westerham 0; Scott 2 Sutton 1; Snowdown 2 Kennington 0; Swanscombe 5 Rusthall 4; University of Kent 3 St Margarets 1.

LONDON FINANCIAL LEAGUE: Senior cup: Second round: Kleinwort Benson 0 Morgan Stanley 4

FA VASE: Fourth round: Paulton Rovers 0 Mangotsfield 3.

OLD BOYS LEAGUE: Premier division: Aloysians 11 Danes 0; Isleworthians 3 Ignations 1; Glyn 0 Cardinal Manning 0; Clapham 2 Tenisonians 3.

SOUTH EAST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Arsenal 0 West Ham 1; Charlton Athletic 2 Cambridge 3; Chelsea 1 Tottenham Hotspur 3; Fulham 0 Watford 2; Ipswich Town 1 Millwall 4; Norwich City 0 Leyton Orient 0; Queens Park Rangers 2 Gillingham 3; Southend United 2 Portsmouth 2. Second division: Barnet 0 Oxford City 2; Brentford 2 Bristol City 1; Bristol Rovers 2 Crystal Palace 4; Luton Town 1 Wycombe Wanderers 3; Southampton 5 Colchester United 0; Tottenham Hotspur 0 Swindon Town 0; Wimbledon 3 Reading 0.

SOUTHERN AMATEUR LEAGUE: Winchmore Hill 1 West Wickham 3; Civil Service 2 Norsemen 1; South Bank Poly 4 Kew Association 2; Crouch End Vampires 1 Old Esthameians 1; East Barnet OG 1 Old Actonians 2; Old Parkonians 0 Lloyds Bank 1; Old Bromleians 1 Old Stationers 2; Midland Bank 0 Old Lyonians 5; Lensbury 0 Alexandra Park 3; Old Parmiterians 2 Polytechnic 1; Merton 7 Old Westminster Citizens 0; Broomfield 2 Old Salesians 3; Cuaco 1 Reigate Priory 0; Ibis 1 Southgate Olympic 1; Brentham 1 Alleyn OB 2.

SOUTHERN OLYMPIAN LEAGUE: First division: Nottsborough 0 Old Owens 4; St Marys College 2 Old Grammarians 1; Witan 3 Parkfield 3.

UK LIVING WOMEN'S FA CUP: Fifth round: Liverpool 7 Middlesbrough 1; Croydon 2 Inter Cardiff 0; Canary Racers 1 Ipswich 3; Ilkeston 2 Millwall Lionesses 0; Arsenal 2 Wembley 1; Whitehawk 1 Newcastle 0; Huddersfield 5 Everton 5; Villa Aztecs 1 Doncaster Belles 5.

FA OF WALES TROPHY: Quarter-finals: Brynithion Ath 1 Llandudno 3; Hoover Sports 5 Taffs Well 2; Maesteg Park 1 Rhydymwyn 5; Penrhyncoch 1 Oswestry 1.

LEAGUE OF WALES: Aberystwyth 3 Briton Ferry 1; Afan Lido 0 Llansantffraid 1; Barry 3 Flint Town 1; Caernarfon 3 Cwmbran 1; Cemaes Bay 2 Ebbw Vale 1; Llanelli 3 Caersws 1; Newtown 2 Bangor 1; Rhyl 3 Inter Cardiff 2; Ton Pentre 1 Porthmadog 1.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Barry Town	22	17	3	2	55	11	54
Flint Town	26	15	5	6	51	25	50
Bangor City	25	13	5	7	48	38	44
Conwy	21	12	6	3	61	31	42
Newtown	20	11	4	5	31	16	37
Connah's Quay	21	9	7	5	44	35	34
Caernarfon	23	8	9	6	43	35	33
Cwmbran	21	8	8	5	32	21	32
Inter Cardiff	23	9	5	9	38	37	32
Caersws	22	10	2	10	48	58	32
Ebbw Vale	22	8	6	8	31	28	30
Porthmadog	24	8	5	11	38	40	29
Ton Pentre	23	7	6	10	28	37	27
Llansantffraid	21	7	5	9	35	34	26
Holywell	24	7	5	12	38	48	26
Rhyl	24	6	6	12	27	50	24
Aberystwyth	21	6	5	10	34	37	23
Afan Lido	20	5	5	10	19	38	20
Cemaes Bay	21	5	4	12	30	61	19
Briton Ferry	20	5	3	12	27	58	18
Llanelli	23	3	4	16	31	58	13

BASS IRISH CUP: Fifth round: Ards 10 Crookstown Utd 1; Armagh 2 Dundela 1; Bangor 0 Portadown 4; Chimney Corner 0 Ballymena 1; Crumlin U 0 Linfield 8; Crusaders 4 Dungiven 0; Distillery 4 Larne Tech OB 2; Dungannon Swifts 2 Omagh 4; East Belfast 4 Malachians 1; Glenavon 12 first Liverpool 0; Glentoran 4 Limavady 1; Kilmore 0 Cliftonville 3; Larne 3 Banbridge 0; Newry 2 Coleraine 1; RUC 2 Carrick 3; Tobermore 2 Ballyclare 3.

BORD GAIS LEAGUE OF IRELAND: Cork 0 Derry 1; Shamrock 0 Sligo 2; UCD 3 Bohemians 1.

POOLS CHECK

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
1	1	1	3	1	1	1	3	1	1	2	1	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58
1	1	1	1	2	1	3	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	3	1	3	1	1	1	1	2

FORECAST: Telephone claims for 23 points; dividend forecast is very good with 7 score draws and 7 no-score draws

FIRST DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pt	Gls
		HOME					AWAY						
1 Derby	27	9	4	1	28	11	5	4	4	17	19	50	45
2 Charlton	26	6	5	2	21	15	6	4	3	18	13	45	39
3 Huddersfld	28	8	3	3	25	15	3	6	5	12	17	42	37
4 Southend	27	8	4	2	19	13	3	4	6	12	19	41	31
5 Leicester	26	4	4	4	18	18	6	5	3	22	18	39	40
6 Stoke	27	5	5	3	16	10	5	4	5	21	23	39	37
7 Sunderland	24	6	3	2	19	8	4	6	3	11	12	39	30
8 Millwall	27	4	4	6	13	16	6	5	2	16	17	39	29
9 Norwich	28	5	5	4	16	14	5	3	6	23	20	38	39
10 Birmingham	28	6	5	2	22	16	4	3	6	15	20	38	37
11 Ipswich	26	7	4	3	30	20	2	6	4	17	17	37	47
12 Barnsley	27	6	5	2	18	18	3	5	6	17	26	37	35
13 Grimsby	26	5	7	2	17	13	4	3	5	15	19	37	32
14 Tranmere	25	6	4	3	24	14	3	3	6	12	15	34	36
15 C Palace	25	2	6	3	13	15	6	4	4	19	18	34	32
16 Portsmouth	28	6	4	4	26	19	2	4	8	18	27	32	44
17 Oldham	26	5	5	3	21	13	2	6	5	13	16	32	34
18 Reading	26	6	3	4	19	17	1	7	5	13	19	31	32
19 Port Vale	27	3	4	6	16	20	4	5	5	17	20	30	33
20 Wolves	26	4	6	4	18	18	2	4	6	14	19	28	32
21 West Brom	26	5	2	6	15	16	2	2	9	14	29	25	29
22 Watford	25	3	5	4	15	13	2	5	6	13	19	25	28
23 Luton	25	3	4	6	18	21	3	3	6	5	16	25	23
24 Sheff Utd	26	3	4	6	16	20	2	4	7	17	25	23	33

SECOND DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pt	Gls
		HOME					AWAY						
1 Swindon	25	7	5	1	22	7	7	3	2	20	10	50	42
2 Crewe	24	9	2	1	26	10	5	3	4	20	16	47	46
3 Blackpool	24	7	2	2	20	9	5	5	3	18	15	43	38
4 Notts Co	23	7	2	3	20	11	5	5	1	15	8	43	35
5 Chesterfld	24	8	3	1	23	9	3	4	5	13	16	40	36
6 Burnley	24	7	5	1	26	15	3	3	5	13	16	38	39
7 Bournemth	26	8	3	3	21	15	3	2	7	12	21	38	33
8 Bradford	25	7	2	3	19	16	4	2	7	17	24	37	36
9 Shrewsbury	26	6	2	5	20	15	5	2	6	15	20	37	35
10 Wrexham	24	6	5	1	25	14	2	6	4	10	13	35	35
11 Wycombe	24	4	7	1	15	11	4	4	4	16	14	35	31
12 Bristol R	26	4	3	6	15	21	5	5	3	15	15	35	30
13 Walsall	24	4	6	2	17	11	5	2	5	11	7	35	28
14 Oxford Utd	24	9	1	2	24	10	0	6	6	7	15	34	31
15 Stockport	26	3	6	4	13	12	5	3	5	19	17	33	32
16 Bristol City	26	5	4	4	13	12	2	5	6	12	25	30	25
17 Peterboro	24	5	3	4	21	15	2	5	5	13	23	29	34
18 Rotherham	25	6	4	3	20	15	1	3	8	10	24	28	30
19 Carlisle	26	4	5	3	16	12	1	5	8	15	28	25	31
20 York	24	4	3	5	14	15	3	1	8	13	24	25	27
21 Swansea	25	3	6	3	16	15	2	3	8	10	27	24	26
22 Brentford	24	6	1	5	12	10	0	5	7	9	21	24	21
23 Brighton	25	3	3	7	12	19	3	1	8	11	21	22	23
24 Hull	24	1	4	6	11	22	1	4	8	7	21	14	18

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pt	Gls
		HOME					AWAY						
1 Gillingham	25	10	1	1	21	3	4	6	3	12	7	49	33
2 Preston	25	7	5	1	34	13	4	7	1	17	10	45	51
3 Chester	26	6	4	2	24	14	6	4	4	20	17	44	44
4 Doncaster	25	8	3	1	17	9	4	2	7	14	23	41	31
5 Colchester	25	7	3	2	22	13	3	7	3	16	17	40	38
6 Darlington	25	4	4	5	13	13	6	5	1	15	11	39	28
7 Plymouth	25	7	4	2	23	12	3	4	5	17	17	38	40
8 Bury	25	4	5	5	11	16	5	4	2	18	15	36	29
9 Wigan	25	8	2	3	19	15	1	6	5	14	17	35	33
10 Northmptn	25	4	5	3	17	12	5	2	6	11	13	34	28
11 Cambridge	25	5	5	3	22	16	4	1	7	17	27	33	39
12 Rochdale	24	4	4	3	20	15	5	1	7	14	14	32	34
13 Hereford	24	4	4	4	23	18	3	6	3	12	12	31	35
14 L Orient	27	7	2	4	17	12	1	5	8	9	24	31	26
15 Exeter	26	4	5	3	12	12	2	7	5	15	19	30	27
16 Barnet	26	4	5	4	15	17	2	7	4	12	15	30	27
17 Scunthorpe	23	4	4	3	15	13	3	4	5	18	17	29	33
18 Hartlepool	24	4	7	1	16	12	3	1	8	10	22	29	26
19 Cardiff	26	4	4	5	10	8	3	4	6	14	22	29	24
20 Mansfield	25	2	7	4	14	20	3	5	4	18	23	27	32
21 Fulham	24	5	6	1	22	13	0	5	7	7	20	26	29
22 Lincoln	25	3	5	5	13	16	3	3	6	11	22	26	24
23 Scarboro	25	3	7	3	14	16	2	3	7	12	20	25	26
24 Torquay	25	3	3	7	12	25	0	5	7	10	22	17	22

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pt	Goal diff
		HOME					AWAY						
1 Rangers	24	9	2	2	32	10	8	3	0	23	3	56	+42
2 Celtic	24	6	4	1	16	9	10	3	0	27	9	55	+25
3 Hearts	24	7	1	4	24	17	3	3	6	13	20	34	0
4 Aberdeen	22	6	0	5	20	12	4	3	4	13	14	33	+7
5 Hibernian	24	5	3	4	19	19	4	3	5	14	21	33	-7
6 Raith	22	5	4	3	15	10	3	1	6	10	23	29	-8
7 Kilmarnock	23	5	3	3	19	13	2	2	8	9	23	26	-8
8 Partick	23	3	4	5	8	15	2	1	8	7	19	20	-19
9 Falkirk	23	3	2	6	9	15	2	2	8	10	21	19	-17
10 Motherwell	23	2	4	5	7	12	0	6	6	6	16	16	-15

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pt	Goal diff
		HOME					AWAY						
1 Dundee Utd	24	7	3	2	28	13	6	4	2	16	12	46	+19
2 Dunfermline	21	7	1	2	21	10	6	1	4	20	11	41	+20
3 G Morton	21	6	1	3	18	10	6	2	3	18	14	39	+12
4 Dundee	23	2	5	5	14	18	8	2	1	22	11	37	+7
5 St Johnstn	22	6	4	2	19	8	3	2	5	11	14	33	+8
6 Airdrie	22	2	4	4	12	15	5	4	3	15	14	29	-2
7 St Mirren	22	3	2	5	11	18	4	5	3	16	13	28	-4
8 Clydebank	22	4	4	4	12	13	2	3	5	13	19	25	-7
9 Hamilton	22	2	2	7	12	19	1	3	7	7	17	14	-17
10 Dumbarton	21	2	1	8	8	23	1	1	8	9	30	11	-36

SECOND DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pt	Goal diff
		HOME					AWAY						
1 East Fife	20	4	3	2	11	10	10	0	1	16	4	45	+13
2 Stirling	21	6	3	1	18	8	6	4	1	27	12	43	+25
3 Stenhsmuir	21	6	2	2	20	9	4	2	5	17	18	34	+10
4 Berwick	20	4	4	2	16	8	5	1	4	20	13	32	+15
5 Stranraer	21	4	6	1	13	8	1	6	3	12	18	27	-1
6 Clyde	19	3	2	5	15	12	2	6	1	6	3	23	+6
7 Forfar	20	4	2	5	8	20	2	3	4	10	14	23	-16
8 Ayr	20	2	2	5	9	13	3	4	4	10	13	21	-7
9 Queen Of S	19	1	5	5	14	27	1	3	4	9	11	14	-15
10 Montrose	21	2	2	6	11	19	0	2	9	7	28	10	-30

THIRD DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pt	Goal diff
		HOME					AWAY						
1 Livingston	20	4	3	4	10	8	7	1	1	15	5	37	+12
2 Caley This	20	4	3	2	21	13	6	3	2	25	7	36	+26
3 Brechin	20	7	2	2	16	6	3	4	2	8	6	36	+12
4 Arbroath	21	4	4	2	15	13	5	3	3	13	14	34	+1
5 Ross Co	20	5	6	0	23	10	3	3	3	11	12	33	+12
6 Cowdenbth	21	5	2	4	17	14	3	1	6	15	23	27	-5
7 Queen's Pk	22	6	4	3	16	10	1	2	7	8	19	24	-5
8 East Stirling	21	2	1	6	14	21	3	4	5	19	22	20	-10
9 Alloa	20	3	1	6	10	21	1	6	3	8	11	19	-14
10 Albion	21	3	1	5	14	17	2	0	10	11	37	16	-29

هكذا من الأصل

DAY JANUARY 22 1996

CARLING PREMIERSHIP

Endsleigh Insurance League

FIRST DIVISION

SECOND DIVISION

THIRD DIVISION

BELL'S

PREMIER DIVISION

FIRST DIVISION

SECOND DIVISION

THIRD DIVISION

Britain fail to profit from early advantage

Great Britain 1
Canada 1

FROM SYDNEY FRISKIN
IN BARCELONA

GREAT BRITAIN failed to consolidate their early advantage and dropped their second point in the men's Olympic qualifying hockey tournament here yesterday after a 1-1 draw with Canada. With Halls still unable to play because of a back injury, Britain's defence lacked its usual stability and the front line never got together without the influence of Garcia, who had been forced to withdraw from the tournament with illness.

In spite of the drawbacks, Britain had enough opportunity to win and David Whitaker, the coach, said: "We gave away another soft goal. Three of the four goals we've conceded in two matches here have been given away on a plate. But we still made enough chances to have scored more than once, so it's desperately disappointing."

TABLE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Spain	2	2	0	0	7	1	4
Malaysia	2	2	0	0	4	1	4
India	2	1	1	0	7	4	3
Holland	2	1	0	1	6	5	2
Britain	2	0	2	0	4	4	2
Canada	2	0	1	1	2	6	1
Belorussia	2	0	0	2	1	5	0
Belgium	2	0	0	2	1	6	0

Top five teams qualify for Olympics

RESULTS: Spain 4 Belgium 0; Malaysia 2 Belorussia 0, India 4 Holland 1; Britain 1 Canada 1.

TODAY'S MATCHES: Spain v India; Malaysia v Holland; Britain v Belorussia; Belgium v Canada.

Mayer, at outside right, took over the leadership of Britain's attack and was the only member of the front line with any semblance of skill and purpose.

Giles waited patiently on the bench to come on and strike the short corners but his only appearance took place with ten minutes to go when he came on for Britain's only short corner. His shot was saved and a defender denied him a second attempt.

The match had started well for Britain, however. Within 15 seconds of the start, Mayer had raced down the right flank and crossed the ball into the circle for Robert Thompson to steer it into the net. Up to the end of the first half, Canada had more chances of neutralising the lead than Britain had of increasing it. The Canadians forced two short corners, from the first of which Mason, in goal, saved a fine effort by Burrows.

They were denied a shot from their second short corner but came into the game with a serious threat from open play. Milkovitch, coming in along the line on the right, just missed the far post and further shots by Short and Chohan missed the target.

Mayer began the second half with another of his sparkling runs down the right wing and tested the goalkeeper with an angled shot. His next effort was to deliver the ball to Nick Thompson who gained possession on the left of the circle and shot wide.

Britain held the Canadian defence under considerable pressure up to the twentieth minute of the period but another chance was lost when Robert Thompson put his shot straight at the goalkeeper from Mayer's pass.

Long corners are usually regarded as a useless exercise in modern hockey but the one which Canada earned in the 63rd minute proved profitable. The ball was hit into the circle from near the corner flag and Gifford, gaining possession, hit the target with a strong shot to equalise.

In the last five minutes, Britain hurled themselves relentlessly at the Canadian defence, which held out well, the goalkeeper making two smart saves.

GREAT BRITAIN: S Mason (Reading); J Wyatt (Reading), Soma Singh (Southgate), G Fordham (Hounslow), Kalbir Takar (Cannock), S Hazlitt (Hounslow), C Mayer (Cannock), J Shaw (Southgate), R Thompson (Hounslow), J Laslett (Teddington, captain), N Thompson (Old Loughtonians). Substitutes used: D Hall (Guildford), C Giles (Havant), H Hoskin (Reading).

CANADA: H Cant; P Burrows (captain), R Roberts, A Brahmst, R D'Abreo, P Milkovitch, R Short, B Chohan, C Gifford, A Evans, M Gacek. Substitutes used: J De Souza, K Pereira, R Edamura.

Umpires: P von Reth (Holland), V Sasidharan (Malaysia).

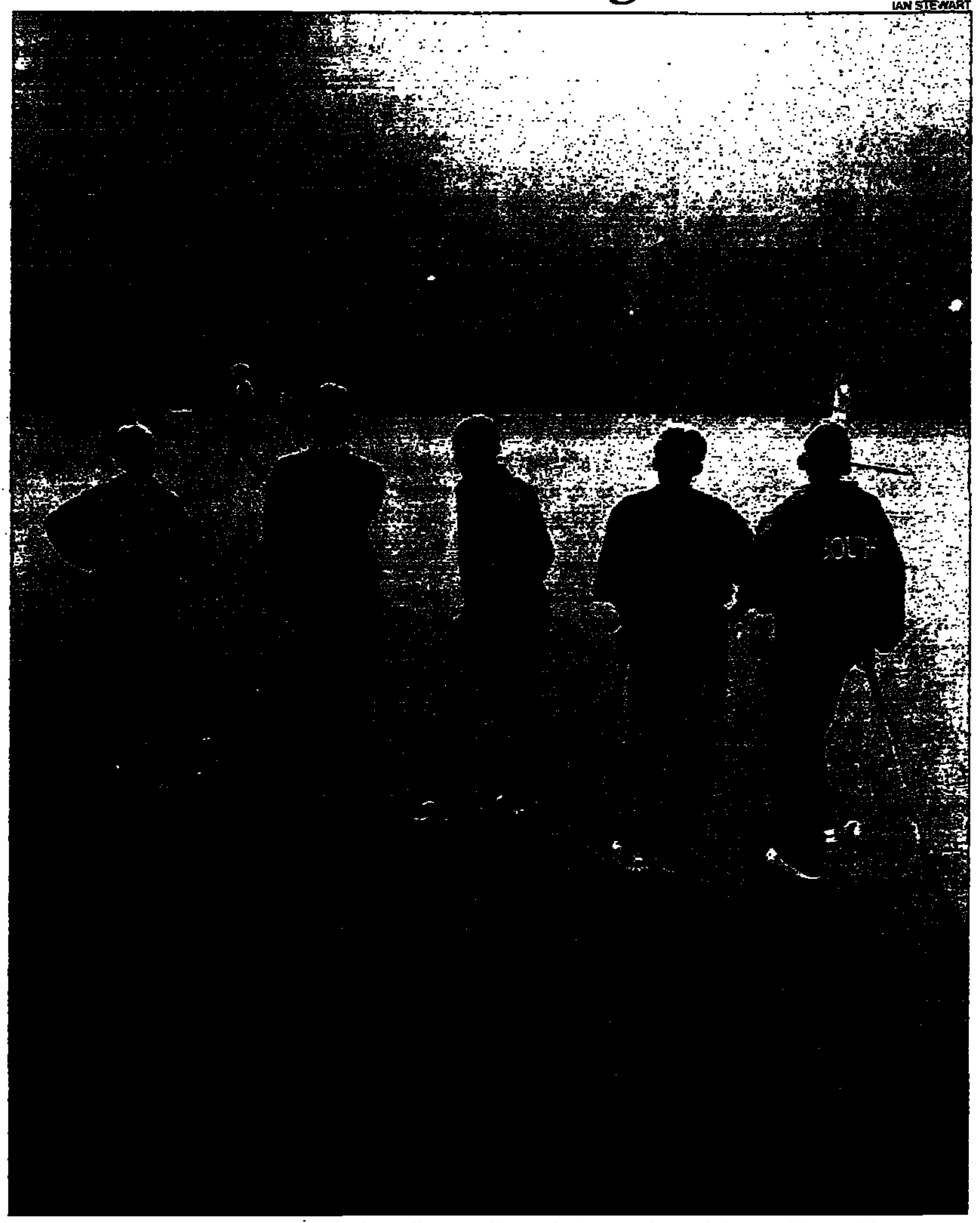
☐ India became favourites to win the tournament after a sparkling 4-1 victory over Holland, taking a 2-1 lead by half-time and adding two more goals after the interval. Ramandeep Singh's two goals from penalty strokes gave India a 2-0 lead which was reduced shortly before the interval by van den Honert from a short corner.

Seven minutes into the second half, Holland missed a great chance to draw level when Stefan Veen shot past the far post and then Dhanraj Pillay, the India centre forward, added two more goals to settle the match. It was India's first victory over the Dutch for ten years.

Hockey successes still making heads turn

SPORT IN SCHOOLS

David Powell on the impact being made by pupils at Sir William Borlase's Grammar School


IAN STEWART

Senior boys from Sir William Borlase's listen and learn during evening training at Bisham Abbey

Just as it helps to know the boy with the ball if you want a game, so it is an advantage if your sport is played by the headmaster's son. Hockey at Sir William Borlase's Grammar had, in the words of David Wedd, master in charge, "no status at all" when he arrived at the school in 1972 ... "until we started winning matches and the headmaster's son began playing".

Traditionally, Sir William Borlase's is a rugby school. "There was a bit of hockey played," Wedd said. "We had unofficial matches, but the head did not know they were happening." No head of Sir William Borlase's today could fail to see the importance of hockey to the school's status in national sport. It is among the strongest schools in the country.

When the girls won the All England Women's Hockey Association schools under-16 championship last winter, Sir William Borlase's became one of only two schools — Millfield is the other — to have won national titles at boys' and girls' hockey. The boys had won the Hockey Association youth cup for under-16s three times, and the under-18 championship twice.

That team, which won two under-16 and two under-18 titles, went six years without defeat, winning 100 matches and drawing ten. It won the unofficial European schools tournament in 1991, the only British school to have achieved the distinction.

Other honours have included a boys' under-18 national indoor title, though the school has no indoor hockey area. Its outdoor area is not full size. What it does have, though, is Bisham Abbey national sports centre close by. Sir William Borlase's is in Marlow, 1½ miles from Bisham's all-weather facilities. However, Bisham Abbey does not come cheap. "To play here costs £5,000 a year," Wedd said. "What we are doing now is £50 worth," he added at Monday night training on an all-weather pitch. They train at Bisham twice a week.

As a state school, hockey has to pay its own way, raising sponsorship and relying on parental financing. Every year, teams are sent to tournaments abroad. "Nobody drops out because they cannot afford it," Wedd said. Where assistance is needed, assistance is given.

Of the 70 who play hockey in a school of 850, 39 are county players. "Basically, our under-16 team is the county side," Jamie Davies, an England player, said. Sir William Borlase's colours are a mark of class. "You are going to be well-known if you wear a red tracksuit with SWB on it," Davies said.

He makes extra trips to the training ground to practise his stick skills. His ambition is to play for Great Britain in the Olympic Games. Sir William Borlase's has produced numerous internationals, including Simon Nicklin, who has appeared 32 times for Great Britain. Another, Phil McGuire, has played 37 times for England. "Had it not been for the school, I certainly would not have been in the position I am today," McGuire said. "David Wedd spent an unbelievable amount of time and effort dedicating himself to the development of hockey in the school.

"It was one of the reasons I selected the school, because it had a lot to offer on the hockey side. They have introduced girls since I went there and I understand they have a girl in the England team."

Step forward former pupil Anna Bennett. "Very special," in Wedd's estimation. Sir William Borlase's first admitted girls in 1988. "The girls' success at hockey came very quickly," Wedd said. "They were playing quite well before Anna came, but she put the icing on it." Reaching full international level, before leaving school, is a lot of icing. Now Bennett has played 51 times for England and Great Britain.

Davies referred to Wedd being "good on discipline". It has not gone unnoticed by the Hockey Association. "David Wedd produces skilful players and players who play with a good attitude," Stephen Barlow, the Hockey Association's competitions organiser, said. "He is one of the unsung heroes of hockey because he produces an enormous number of players at international and national league level."

For this, Wedd needs dedicated coaches and, as practically all training and matches take place outside school hours, they give up much spare time. His experienced support team, all full-time teachers, comprises Chris Davies and Rob Stevens, both Wales internationals, Jonnie Robinson, a Cambridge blue, and Allison Fountain.

Each player's improvement is put before school results. "If it is a choice between a school match or a county match, or something like that, we would always give priority to the higher level," Wedd said. For the majority of hockey players at Sir William Borlase's, representing the school is only the beginning.

Memories of Curry revived by Wilson's exhibition

FROM JOHN HENNESSY
IN SOFIA, BULGARIA

A 17-year-old skater from Belfast stole the show on the first day of the European figure skating championships here yesterday. He was Neil Wilson, who finished third in the B group qualifying competition. Except that this was no competition at all. There have been so many withdrawals (flu seems to be rife all over Europe) that all 11 men in the B group automatically qualified. But rules have to be obeyed and the show had to go on.

If there was an element of farce about the proceedings, at least it was an opportunity to open the eyes of the international community to the outstanding qualities of Wilson, as close an approximation to John Curry as we have seen in the past two decades.

Wilson stood out for the purity of his performance, a skater who can jump surrounded by a horde of jumpers who can skate a bit.

When Curry died last April, it was widely held that he had changed the face of skating for ever. But how can that be when we have a jumping machine for world champion in the shape of Elvis Stojko, of Canada?

This is not to say that Wilson is weak in the gymnastic area. He succeeded with six triple jumps yesterday (failing only with the lutz), something that neither Curry nor Robin Cousins was able to achieve, but it was in the art of skating pure and simple that he stood above the rest.

As yet, Wilson lacks the triple axel, which explains why he was outpointed yesterday by two Russians, Igor Pashkevitch and Alexei Yagudin, but that will no doubt come when his slim body acquires some bulk.

Wilson first comes under scrutiny for real on Wednesday, when he competes in the short programme along with Steven Cousins, the British champion. The absence, then, of the triple axel and, for safety's sake, the triple lutz, will be a handicap, but the silky quality of his skating will still be there for all to see and appreciate.

☐ Rudy Galindo, in the performance of his life, won the United States figure skating championships on Saturday, earning two perfect marks along the way. As expected, Michelle Kwan capped a superb year with her first national title in the women's event. Kwan, who, at 15, is the third youngest women's champion, achieved her fifth consecutive first-place finish this season.

Els takes title with triple birdie finish

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

ERNIE ELS birdied the final three holes for a dramatic one-stroke victory in the South African Open in Cape Town yesterday. David Howell, the 20-year-old Englishman playing in only his second professional golf tournament, was one shot off the pace set by Els going into the final round but could manage only a 69 to finish four strokes behind in fourth place.

Els, who finished with a four-round total of 275, 13 under par, was forced to respond to an unexpected challenge from his fellow South African, Brenden Pappas, who carded a six-under-par final round of 66.

The crucial moment came at the par-five 16th, where Els made an improbable birdie. After hooking his drive into heavy rough and then dragging his approach into scraggy ground 55 yards left of the green, an immaculate chip on to a down-slope left Els with a putt of just 18 inches.

Earlier, Pappas had birdied the same hole in more conventional fashion and both men holed tricky 10ft putts at the 17th for birdies to remain tied at 12 under par.

But Els was still on a roll and his approach to the 18th landed softly 12 feet from the hole. Almost inevitably the putt dropped for a round of 66.

"I feel a bit fortunate but, heck, you need a bit of luck," Els said. "The chip onto the 16th won it. It was a pressure shot — too soft or too hard and I had no chance of making my birdie."

Darren Clarke, of Northern Ireland, narrowly failed to earn a play-off place in the Malaysian Open at Kuala Lumpur yesterday after a final level-par round of 72. The Ulsterman finished third on five-under-par 283, one shot behind Steve Flesch, of the United States, who defeated Craig Jones, of Australia, at the second extra hole of the sudden-death showdown.

Sam Torrance, of Scotland, the pre-tournament favourite, finished seven shots off the pace after a 72.

Payne Stewart shot a nine-under-par 63 in the fourth round of the 90-hole Bob Hope Classic to take a share of the lead at 18 under par with his fellow Americans, Mark Brooks, John Huston and Jeff Maggert. Stewart had nine birdies in his round at Indian Ridge and combined a good start with a good finish — birdies on three of the first four holes and three of the last four. "I can't remember striking the ball as well as I did today," Stewart said. "It was just excellent golf."

One stroke behind were Fred Couples, who had a 65 at Bermuda Dunes, and Nolan Henke. Among three players two strokes further back was Jesper Parnevik, of Sweden, while Sandy Lyle, of Britain, was eight shots behind the leaders after his fourth-round 69.

Caroline Pierce, of Britain, was three shots behind the leader, Patty Sheehan, of the United States, after adding a 73 to her first round 67 in the LPGA HealthSouth tournament in Orlando. Laura Davies, of Britain, carded a 70 to be five shots off the pace.

Jim Colbert, of the United States, the defending champion, battled against changing conditions for a two-under-par 70 and a share of the second-round lead with John Bland, of South Africa, at the US Senior PGA Tournament of Champions in Dorado, Puerto Rico.

Wigan finish as they started and mean to go on

Offiah: expert finisher

Wigan 34
Leeds 20

BY A CORRESPONDENT

WIGAN brought down the curtain on the last winter of rugby league, before the switch to the Super League at the end of March, doing what has come naturally since the opening day. Leeds, the second-best team in the Stones championship and one of only two sides to beat the champions this season, played their part in an entertaining finale, particularly Craig Innes, who scored three second-half tries.

However, with the championship trophy already in place in their boardroom, Wigan were able to introduce several of their more promising youngsters and Shem Tatupu, the former Western Samoa rugby union player.

All did enough to suggest that nothing much will change in the pecking order with the arrival of summer rugby. Wigan are clearly well prepared for the new era. Once again, their New Zealand international half back, Henry Paul, was the star performer, contributing seven goals and two tries for a total of 22 points.

Leeds, for their part, must now realise that finishing second to Wigan is something they may have to get used to for several summers to come.

Their troubles began in the third minute when Paul's high kick was palmed away by Martin Offiah for Andy Johnson, one of the talented Wigan youngsters, to burst through for the opening try. Paul added the conversion and was in the thick of the action again 11 minutes later.

An unfortunate blunder by the winger, Marvin Golden, kept Leeds under pressure and Paul took advantage with the second Wigan try. Leeds found some comfort when Alan Tait burst through a gap to score at the posts. It was, though, just a brief interruption for Wigan who regained control with tries from Martin Hall and Offiah, still the expert finisher.

By half-time, Wigan had done more than enough to send Leeds home empty-handed. They have now won on only one of their past 18 visits to Central Park. Poor discipline cost Leeds dearly as Paul picked up gift points from a run of penalties before Innes scored the first of his three tries.

Garry Schofield, the Leeds captain, was in the sin-bin when Paul scored his next points, a penalty for Schofield's infingement followed by a try of his own making, eight minutes before the end. It was Innes who had the final say with his two late tries.

The Stones championship may be over but Wigan have not given up chasing silverware. They begin their defence of the Silk Cut Challenge Cup on Sunday against Bramley.

SCORERS. Wigan: Tries: Paul (2), Johnson, Hall, Offiah. Goals: Paul (7). Leeds: Tries: Innes (3), Tait. Goals: Holroyd, Gibbons.

WIGAN: K Radlinski, R Smyth, V Tuigamala, A Craig, M Offiah, H Paul, J Robinson, M Cowie, M Hall, M Cassidy (sub: N Barnes, 34min, sub: Cassidy, 56), S Haughton (sub: M Dermott, 57), S Barrow (sub: S Tatupu, 66), A Johnson.

LEEDS: A Tait, J Fallon, C Innes, C Hall, M Golden (sub: A Gibbons, 60); G Schofield, G Holroyd (sub: M Shaw, 29), N Harmon, J Lowes, B McDermott, G Mann, J Field (sub: M Forshaw, 40), A Morley (sub: M Schultz, 72).

Referee: R Smith.

Cold-blooded violence masquerading as sport

Mel Webb samples the licensed mayhem that is British premier division ice hockey

In the days of my youth, an occasional treat was to be taken to London to the ice hockey; Wembley Arena, as I recall, was the chosen destination, there to watch the Lions of that ilk. On Saturday, I attended an ice hockey match for the first time since those days of innocent youth .. and oh, how things have changed.

The game itself has probably improved: I cannot say for certain, since I have not the slightest recollection of the skill of the players then, although I do recall a number of them had vaguely foreign names. We did not have too many people in darkest Hampshire in those days whose names ended in "ycz".

The one thing that does stick in the mind, even after so many years, however, is that between each of the three periods, an heroic line of men in grey trousers and white polo-necked sweaters would, with robot-like synchronisation, level the surface of the ice with wide scrapers on the end of broomsticks.

Those men were boyhood idols, especially the one third from the left who wore a gold-coloured wristwatch that would catch the lights and twinkle with the same metronomic regularity as the arm that wielded its skeletal smoothing tool.

It was with this one small but precious memory that I approached Slough Ice Arena on Saturday to watch a British League premier division match between lowly, humble Slough Jets and the high-flying Nottingham Panthers. The first period was evenly contested, but that did not really matter, for it was only now that the entertainment would really start. Now for the line of Gold Watch's successors.

Result: total disappointment. Instead of men in roll-necks, there was a thundering great machine, steered by one small young man, admittedly in a white tracksuit. His skill was beyond question — not a square centimetre of ice was left unsmoothed. But that did not really matter. From that moment on, it was never going to be the same.

After such a crushing blow, there was little left but to watch the ice hockey, and to decide that this game was definitely invented by a homicidal maniac. A Government health warning might be a bit strong, but this is not a sport to be watched by those of a nervous disposition.

Quite apart from the astonishing athleticism of the players, ice hockey, went the inescapable conclusion, was a game that made the physical contact of the five nations' championship rugby look like handbags at noon.

WHAT IT COSTS

[illegible]
£7.00

[illegible]
(petrol, 50 miles)
£6.00

[illegible]
£1.50

Food & drink
£2.00 Hot dog
80p Tea

[illegible]
£18.30

[illegible]
★★
★ Awful ★★ Poor ★★★ Average ★★★★ Good ★★★★★ Excellent

By the reactions of people sitting nearby, the tempo and temper of the match was nothing out of the ordinary. This was just another league match, licensed mayhem, an exercise in barely-controlled violence, won 10-5 by Nottingham. It seemed at times that, to the combatants, the puck was an irritating impediment to the deeper and more meaningful exploration of their mutual hatred. The red marks on the perspex screen down there were probably not blood; and yet, and yet ...

Sticks and limbs regularly became entangled, and the occasional dismissal for a couple of minutes in the sin-bin appeared to owe more to technical interpretation than natural justice. If the latter had been in force, there would have been nobody left on the ice but the two net-minders, bulky, sporting, ice-bound Mr Blobbies.

The strange thing was, there looked to be no hard feelings about all this GBH. They are cold-blooded individuals, these men — the credo by which they live their sporting lives might be: "Don't get mad — get even". The last rib-shuddering bodycheck on the boards might go unpunished for minutes on end, but retribution was a sure and certain thing, and it would not be pleasant.

Then there was the atmosphere of the venue. Slough Ice Arena is not an aesthetically beautiful place, not so much arena as the mother of all Nissen huts, a curved Portakabin with built-in ice-making machine. For the uncommitted, there were better places to spend a Saturday evening. Like, anywhere else, for example.

Whenever play stopped, the clock stopped, which meant that a 60-minute match took 2¼ hours to complete. In the lulls between action, Gary Glitter or some such was blasted from the public address system, and the words "Slough Jets" were chanted like some meaningful and yet mindless mantra. It kept the spectators happy. It cut no ice with me: it left me cold.

Irish star returns with stirring third to Collier Bay

Danoli steals Old's thunder

FROM JULIAN MUSCAT
AT LEOPARDSTOWN

A RACE of ringing intensity for the AIG Europe Irish Champion Hurdle reached its climax in the dying strides here yesterday when Collier Bay inched ahead of Hotel Minella to prevail for England.

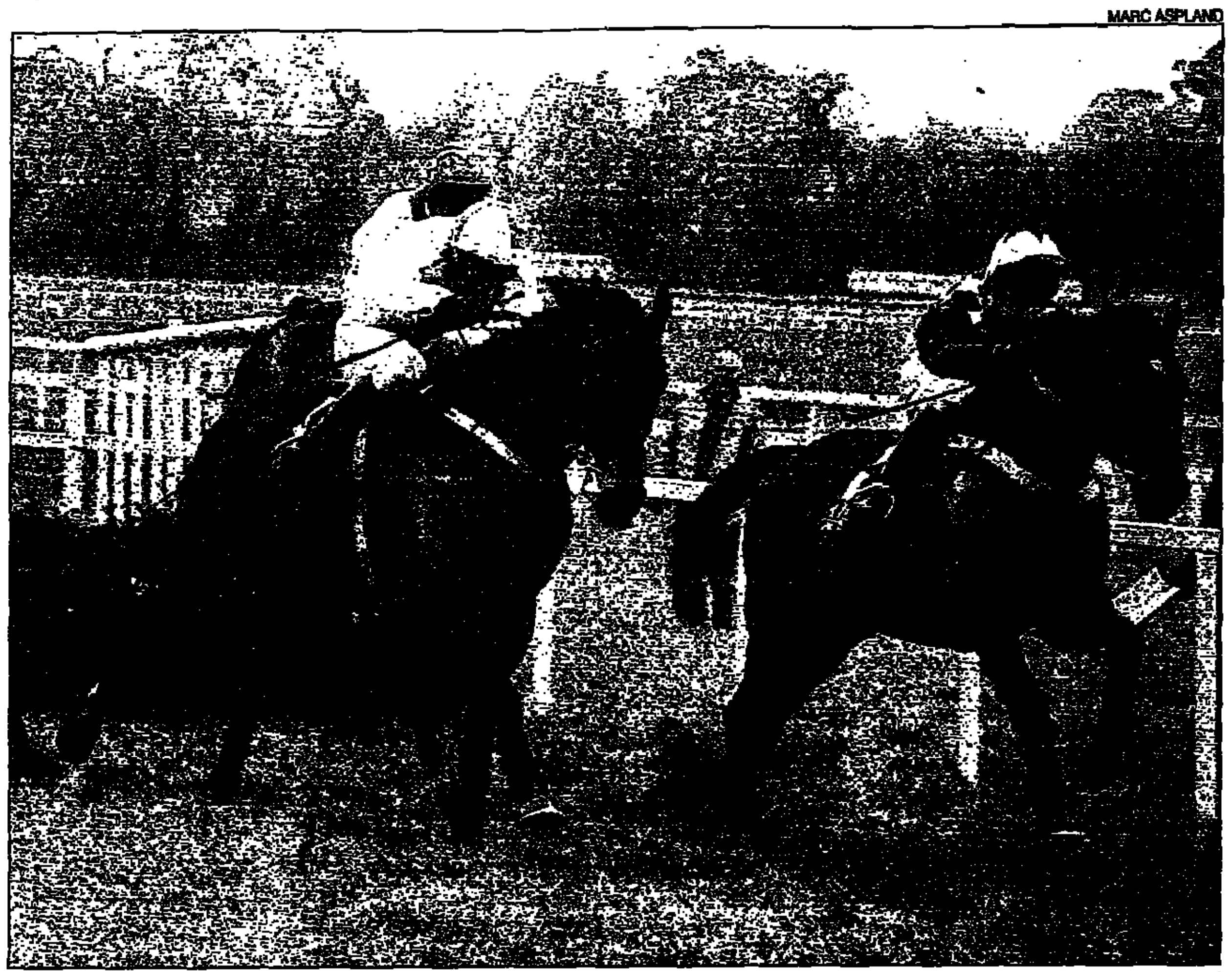
But on a raw afternoon, and in desperately testing conditions, Danoli's stirring rally into third prompted scenes that surpassed anything previously conjured by the charismatic eight-year-old. He was quite magnificent in defeat.

A fractured fetlock kept Danoli off the track for more than eight months. And Tom Foley, who trains the horse, warned allcomers that his charge was woefully short of work. Yet Danoli wasn't having it. His courage knows no bounds and here it briefly threatened to carry him into the winner's enclosure.

BIG-RACE RESULT

2.45 AIG EUROPE CHAMPION HURDLE (Grade I: Ir£34,000: 2m)
1, COLLIER BAY (J Osborne, 5-1); 2, Hotel Minella (C Swan, 8-1); 3, Danoli (T Treacy, 10-11). ALSO RAN: 5-4 Montelado (4th), 9-2 Elas Image, 9 Absalom's Lady (6th), 10 Destriero, 14 Balawhar (5th), 25 Clifdon Fog, Sambara, Shaihar. 11 ran. Hd, ½l, 12l, 4l. J Old at Wroughton. Tote: £5.10; £2.00, £1.90, £3.30. DF: £31.70. CSF: £47.36.

MARC ASPLAND



Collier Bay, right, holds Hotel Minella in the AIG Europe Champion Hurdle at Leopardstown yesterday

In the end he couldn't quite make it. As Collier Bay and Hotel Minella traded blows on the run-in, Danoli bore down with rare menace to get within half a length of Hotel Minella, himself just a head behind Collier Bay.

Pride alone dictated he would not capitulate in the tender hands of Tom Treacy after a sapping mistake at the penultimate flight. And the whole of Ireland breathed with Foley when the horse returned sound.

Foley, whose emotions have become inextricably linked with Danoli's fortunes, stood drained of colour as the horse returned to a tumultuous reception. "Beyond all our dreams — we never expected that," he said. "Only prayers got him back to the track. He is heart and nothing else."

The next 24 hours will be crucial to Danoli's rehabilitation. It will be an anxious trainer who runs his hand down the horse's forelegs this morning. Assuming the best, Danoli fully merits a share of Champion Hurdle favouritism in Ladbrokes's book. The executive at Cheltenham should brace itself for a massive Irish presence; Danoli epitomises their spirit like none since Dawn Run.

Before that, Danoli heads for Gowran and the Red Mills Hurdle on February 17, when his many supporters must wait for any backlash from what amounted to a more strenuous outing than connections anticipated. Horses who run well after a long absence can often fall apart.

Against that, few horses are blessed with Danoli's constitution. "There is an awful lot of improvement to come," promised Foley. "We tried to put six weeks' work into 12 days and the horse felt the pressure. We had to back off him but he is still as good as ever. He'll be a completely different horse from now on."

Jim Old, who trains Collier Bay, felt somewhat upstaged after the highlight of his career. He captured the mood perfectly when he noted: "I figured that all the cheers couldn't be for me." Danoli apart, this was a sterling performance from Collier Bay, who is likely to head straight for the Champion Hurdle.

He is rated a 14-1 chance with Coral, but needs testing ground to excel. Absalom's Lady, the second British challenger, never threatened and finished sixth.

Charlie Swan felt he came too soon on Hotel Minella, who travelled supremely well throughout. The nine-year-old, reportedly better on good ground, is also bound for the Champion Hurdle. He earned a 14-1 quote from William Hill and is improving fast.

Montelado, the 5-4 favourite, was a disappointment in fourth, even if his trainer, Pat Flynn, said the ground was against the injury-prone nine-year-old. "He just can't quicken on it," Flynn lamented. "He will improve a fair bit for the run. The Champion Hurdle is still the plan unless it comes up heavy."

☐ One Man, the impressive winner of the King George VI Tripleprint Chase at Sandown earlier this month, is expected to run in the Pillar Property Investments Chase at Cheltenham on Saturday, when his opponents may include Barton Bank, Flashing Steel and Banjo.

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: SUPER TACTICS
(4.00 Newton Abbot)

Next best: Most Equal
(4.20 Warwick)

Thunderer continued his impressive recent run by selecting Warm Spell (20-1), Jet Rules (4-1 nap) and Trying Again (5-2) at Kempton on Saturday

Woodbine offers fairer terms for Breeders' Cup

JACK WATERMAN

Racing commentary

There has recently been six inches of snow covering the turf area of Woodbine racecourse with the temperature well below zero. Yet, in line with Canada's renowned ability to cope with its severe climate, harness racing continued on the inner ring of its three racetracks.

And within the stands, which house the offices of the Ontario Jockey Club (OJC), whose patron is Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother, preparations are already in full swing for an historic event which will take place when the snows are a distant memory: on October 26, Woodbine will host the Breeders' Cup series, making it the first time these multimillion-dollar races have been held outside the United States.

Two and a half years of planning have so far gone into the making of what will be Woodbine's biggest day, when a record crowd of more than 40,000 is expected, and pari-mutuel outlets nationwide will be working to capacity from a start-time of 1.30 in Toronto and 10.30 on the West Coast.

A priority has been to ensure facilities for the media: 300 press and television reporters and commentators are expected, 125 from the NBC alone and including network arrangements, for example, to Dubai. Already there have been 5,000 ticket applications, and with seating capacity at between 18,000 and 19,000, a lottery is expected in late spring or early summer to determine allocation.

Catering has been high on the planning agenda, with a tented village in prospect and the conversion of the present paddock area for harness racing into a 2,000-seat dining room. Most important of all, perhaps, Woodbine will not be found wanting in providing both dirt and turf courses which will be a fair test. In particular, the new turf course.

Completely rebuilt and opened only in 1994, this is fittingly named after E P Taylor, the architect of racing in Ontario, founder of Woodbine and breeder of Northern Dancer and his illustrious son Nijinsky, a portrait of whom has a prominent place on the walls of the OJC.

The course is a complete 1½ miles and, in contrast to the standard American tracks on which the Breeders' Cup has largely been staged, incorporates some European flavour: for example, the incline leading to a left-handed turn onto a half-mile back stretch, which then joins a long, sweeping far turn.

After that, when the horses come out of the gradual downhill run on the turn, the straight to the winning post, close to the grandstand, is a stretch of more than two furlongs: one of the longest home straights in North America.

So, Woodbine is looking forward, as David Gorman of the OJC describes it, to putting on a "very fine show" as well as one which will have particular appeal for horses flying from Europe.

Not only will the turf track, in particular, suit them, but the temperature at 50-60F will be like autumn at home, affording them their best chance to acclimatise in the Breeders' Cup.

After our disheartening showings in this rich series, Woodbine could be our salvation and certainly represents our best chance of bringing home some major prizes.

WARWICK

THUNDERER
1.50 Ralitsa
2.20 Idiot's Lady
2.50 Big Strand
3.20 Sparrow Hall
3.50 Brogeen Lady
4.20 **MISTER DRUM** (nap)

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 3.50 **BROGEEN LADY.**

GOING: GOOD SIS

1.50 CRECY JUVENILE NOVICES HURDLE (4-Y-O: £2,448: 2m) (12 runners)

1	21P0	CHICODARI 16 (B,D,S) (Brig C Harvey) D Nicholson 11-5	A Maguire	[illegible]
2	1	HAMILTON SILK 40 (G) (Elite Racing Club) M Pipe 11-5	J Osborne	80
3	5410P	LAST SPIN 3 (B,D,G) (Mrs E Long) J Jenkins 11-0	R Supple	77
4	UP0	BOURDONNER 16 (Million In Mind Partnership) W Jenks 10-12	W Marston	62
5		*ENCHANTED COTTAGE 114F (David Kay Racing) M Hammond 10-12*	A P McCoy	–
6	02	INDICATOR 16 (Lady Anne Bentinck) J Quinn 10-12	M Dwyer	90
7		MENOO WHO 147F (Jebel Ali Racing Stables) D Nicholson 10-12	R Johnson (3)	–
8	40	MIM-LOU-AND 21 (J Maren) Miss H Knight 10-12	J F Titley	90
9	3U	RALITSA 9 (Wetherby Racing Bureau 25) M Hammond 10-12	R Garritty	90
10	0	SELATAN 9 (Starlight Racing) D Gandolfo 10-12	D Leahy	66
11	062	SHEPHERDS REST 9 (The Odd Dozen) S Mellor 10-12	N Mann	86
12	0	CHARM DANCER 115F (Mrs R Cobbold) M Pipe 10-7	J Lower	–

BETTING: 11-4 Chicodari, 7-2 Indicator, 4-1 Menoo Who, 5-1 Hamilton Silk, 7-1 Shepherds Rest, 8-1 Ralitsa, 10-1 Last Spin, 12-1 others.

1995: NO CORRESPONDING MEETING

FORM FOCUS

CHICODARI short-head 2nd of 12 to Talk Back (placings later reversed) in juvenile hurdle at Cheltenham (2m 110yd, good to soft). HAMILTON SILK beat Granuaile 1¾l in 18-runner Bangor selling novice hurdle (2m 1f, good). LAST SPIN beat Battleship Bruce neck in 9-runner Fakenham juvenile hurdle (2m, good). INDICATOR 1¼l 2nd of 14 to Volunteer in Warwick juvenile hurdle (2m, good to soft) with SHEPHERD'S REST 28l 5th. MENOO WHO 2l 2nd of 8 to Khayrawani in Flat maiden at Roscommon (1m 4f, firm). MIM-LOU-AND 11l 4th of 20 to Sovereigns Parade in juvenile hurdle at Haydock (2m, good) penultimate start with INDICATOR 32l 10th. RALITSA 1l and neck 3rd of 24 to Elation in juvenile hurdle at Newcastle (2m, good) penultimate start. SHEPHERDS REST 6l 2nd of 17 to Mistinguett in juvenile hurdle at Warwick (2m, good to soft) with SELATAN 20l 5th and RALITSA unseated rider 3rd.
Selection: INDICATOR

2.20 BLENHEIM NOVICES CHASE (£3,066: 3m 2f) (4 runners)

1	4/FU23-1	CELTIC TOWN 45 (F,S) (Lady Helen Smith) O Sherwood 8-11-11	J A McCarthy	82
2	00-321F	FIXTURESSECRETARY 18 (G,S) (P Marley) D Nicholson 7-11-11	A Maguire	75
3	215-1P1	IDIOT'S LADY 17 (G,S) (Mrs J Ollivant) Mrs J Pitman 7-11-6	W Marston	[illegible]
4	0/2P/	*ADMIRAL VILLENEUVE 803 (Mrs W Macauley) C Egerton 8-11-5*	J Osborne	–

BETTING: 4-6 Idiot's Lady, 3-1 Fixturessecretary, 7-2 Celtic Town, 20-1 Admiral Villeneuve.

FORM FOCUS

CELTIC TOWN beat Le Meille 2½l in 4-runner novice chase at Doncaster (3m, good to firm). FIXTURESSECRETARY best effort this season 3l 2nd of 7 to Challenger Du Luc in Leicester novice chase (2m 4f, good to firm). IDIOT'S LADY beat Sister Stephanie 4l in 13-runner novice chase at Towcester (2m 6f, soft). ADMIRAL VILLENEUVE 15l 2nd of 11 to Shaffic in Wetherby novice hurdle (2m 4f, good) penultimate start, Oct 1993.
Selection: IDIOT'S LADY (nap)

2.50 TRAFALGAR NOVICES CHASE (£3,037: 2m) (8 runners)

1	/0623/P	ARMATEUR 11 (Major H Porter) J McConnochie 8-11-4	R Bellamy	–
2	11004-3	BIG STRAND 67 (BF,S) (E Jones) M Pipe 7-11-4	J Lower	–
3	P0-6	COOLINGY 39 (D McCain) D McCain 7-11-4	D McCain	–
4	0/00P0-6	COUNTRY KEEPER 13 (B Ryall) B Ryall 8-11-4	G Upton	64
5	0-P00	DARA DIAMOND 9 (Mrs S Kavanagh) H Kavanagh 6-11-4	A S Smith	–
6	0-33334	MHEMEANLES 18 (F) (G Farndon) Capt J Wilson 6-11-4	R Johnson (3)	71
7	6S3355	MUST BE MAGICAL 6 (F,S) (P Bradley) P Bradley 8-11-4	B Harding (3)	83
8	04-124F	*THE CAUMRUE 9 (G,S) (The On The Run Partnership) G Balding 8-11-4*	A P McCoy	[illegible]

BETTING: 4-5 Big Strand, 2-1 The Caumrue, 7-1 Must Be Magical, 8-1 Mhemeanles, 16-1 others.

FORM FOCUS

ARMATEUR 20l 3rd of 18 to Greenhil Tare Away in novice hurdle at Worcester (3m, good) penultimate start, April 1994. BIG STRAND 12l 3rd of 7 to Eskimo Nel in a handicap hurdle here (2m, good). MHEMEANLES 9½l 4th of 7 to Lochnagrain in a novice chase at Sedgefield (2m 1f, good to firm). MUST BE MAGICAL 6¼l 5th of 11 to Stormy Coral in a handicap chase at Carlisle (2m, good to soft). THE CAUMRUE 7¾l 4th of 13 to Major Summit in a novice chase at Sandown (2m 4f 110yd, good to soft) penultimate start.
Selection: THE CAUMRUE

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Runs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
M Pipe	30	117	25.6	A P McCoy	3	13	23.1
Miss H Knight	8	33	24.2	T Jenks	8	36	22.2
D Nicholson	24	106	22.6	R Johnson	4	21	19.0
O Sherwood	10	48	20.8	J Osborne	15	83	18.1
N Henderson	9	46	19.6	A Maguire	14	79	17.7
Mrs J Pitman	16	86	18.6	M Dwyer	3	17	17.6

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Southwell: 2.10 The Wad. 2.40 Slmaat. 3.40 Flashing Sabre. WARWICK: 1.50 Chicodari. 1.50 Last Spin.

GUIDE TO OUR IN-LINE RACECARD

101	113143	GOOD TIMES 13 (BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 12-0	B West (7)	88

Racecard number. Six-figure form (F — fell. P — pulled up. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing: F if flat. (B — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

3.20 AGINCOURT HANDICAP CHASE (£3,711: 3m 2f) (7 runners)

1	4131/R0	THE WIDGET MAN 16 (D,F,G,S) (A Isley) J Gifford 10-12-0	L Aspell (5)	96
2	322-P54	DIAMOND FORT 7 (D,F,G,S) (Mrs R Stocks) J McConnochie 11-10-13	A Maguire	95
3	0223-11	NICKLUP 33 (F,G,S) (Lord Cadogan) T Forster 9-10-12	A Thornton	94
4	220F1F-	SPARROW HALL 266 (F,G,S) (P Hall) J Fitzgerald 9-10-5	M Dwyer	[illegible]
5	315-1P6	DISTINCTIVE 9 (S) (J Hancock) M Wilkinson 7-10-1	J F Titley	98
6	1U-532U	ALICE SMITH 9 (G,S) (Mrs J Eckley) B Eckley 9-10-0	W McFarland	86
7	322-500	MISS FERN 37 (F,G,S) (Mrs P Andrews) R Dickin 11-10-0	D Meredith	79

Long handicap: Alice Smith 9-6, Miss Fern 8-11

BETTING: 7-4 Nicklup, 7-2 Sparrow Hall, 5-1 The Widget Man, 6-1 Diamond Fort, Distinctive, 10-1 Alice Smith, 25-1 Miss Fern.

FORM FOCUS

THE WIDGET MAN 59l 17th of 26 to Buckhouse Boy in handicap hurdle here (2m 4f 110yd, good to soft). Best effort over fences, beat Indian Tonic 10l in a 4-runner handicap chase at Sandown (3m 110yd, good to soft). DIAMOND FORT 29l 4th of 11 to Nazzaro in a handicap chase at Fontwell (3m 2f 110yd, soft). NICKLUP, completed double, beat ALICE SMITH (7lb worse off) neck in a 7-runner handicap chase at Ludlow (3m, good). SPARROW HALL beat Dominant Serenade short-head in a 10-runner novice chase at Carlisle (3m, good to firm) on penultimate start, April 1995. DISTINCTIVE best effort this season, beat Change The Act ½l in a 9-runner handicap chase at Bangor (2m 4f 110yd, good to soft).
Selection: NICKLUP

3.50 ALAMEIN NOVICES HURDLE (£2,594: 2m 4f 110yd) (22 runners)

1	5561-0	CLAVERHOUSE 11 (F) (Mrs P Corbett) J Fitzgerald 7-11-7	M Dwyer	–
2	U-3340	DJAIS 9 (T Long) J Jenkins 7-11-7	G Bradley	90
3	63	FLYING GUNNER 11 (R Green) D Nicholson 5-11-7	A Maguire	84
4	00	GREY STORY 16 (G Phillips) A J Wilson 6-11-7	T Jenks	65
5	0-0	MUSIC THERAPY 56 (R Van Gelder) T Forster 6-11-7	A Thornton	–
6	U	NAUTICAL GEORGE 18 (Mrs E Ellis) J Upson 5-11-7	R Supple	–
7		ONE MORE MAN (A Boley) J Gifford 5-11-7	L Aspell (5)	–
8	30-F464	REVEREND BROWN 15 (J Palmer-Brown) O Sherwood 6-11-7	J Osborne	89
9	0	SEA FREEDOM 9 (Miss S Searle) G Balding 5-11-7	A P McCoy	–
10	0PP-P	THE ELOPER 39 (Mrs E England) Miss E England 8-11-7	P Crowley (7)	–
11	0-0	THE NAUGHTY VICAR 37 (The Hell Raisers) S Mellor 6-11-7	N Mann	–
12	4/40	TREMBLE 11 (Mrs E Roberts) N Henderson 7-11-7	M A Fitzgerald	–
13	0020	WEEHEBY 9 (The DANA Partnership) M Barraclough 7-11-7	R Garritty	86
14	2	BROGEEN LADY 62 (Starlight Racing) O Sherwood 6-11-2	D Leahy	[illegible]
15	240200	*COMEDY HOUR 32 (N Pollet) F Murphy 5-11-2*	W Marston	53
16	00	EMMA GRIMES 11 (M Hobbs) J Moore 5-11-2	W McFarland	58
17	0/P	FORTITUDE STAR 59 (Mrs J Saunders) Mrs R Henderson 6-11-2	B Fenton (5)	–
18	2F303	MOONLIGHT AIR 37 (Mrs P Badger) J Spearing 5-11-2	R Johnson (3)	84
19	0-00PP	PARTY BEDLAM 13 (Mrs S Walters) C James 7-11-2	Mr E James	–
20	/3/35-5P	SPRING GRASS 16 (B Ryall) B Ryall 6-11-2	G Upton	67
21	P	CHELWORTH WOLF 32 (R Gilbert) J Spearing 4-10-6	J Lodder	–
22	00	LORD FREDERICK 46 (D Dutton) [illegible] 4-10-2	Gary Lyons	64

BETTING: 3-1 Brogeen Lady, 4-1 Reverend Brown, 9-2 Flying Gunner, 6-1 Tremble, 7-1 One More Man, 8-1 Weeheby, 12-1 Comedy Hour, 14-1 others.

FORM FOCUS

CLAVERHOUSE 43l 7th of 13 to Landsborough in a novice hurdle at Wetherby (2m 4f 110yd, good to soft). DJAIS 25l 7th of 20 to Wisley Wonder in a novice hurdle at Ascot (2m 4f, soft) with SEA FREEDOM 31l 16th. FLYING GUNNER 10½l 3rd of 14 to Simply Dashing in a novice hurdle at Wetherby (2m 4f 110yd, good to soft). REVEREND BROWN 9l 4th of 22 to Goldenswift in a novices' handicap hurdle at Sandown (2m 6f, good to soft). SPRING GRASS (9lb better off) tailed off when pulled up after 5th. TREMBLE 33l 9th of 17 to Wild West Wind in a novice hurdle at Wincanton (2m, good to soft). WEEHEBY 1¾l 2nd of 16 to Serious in a novice hurdle at Uttoxeter (2m, good to firm) on penultimate start with MOONLIGHT AIR 12l 3rd. BROGEEN LADY 4l 2nd of 5 to Wisley Wonder in a novice hurdle at Cheltenham (3m 2f, good).
Selection: BROGEEN LADY

4.20 WATERLOO HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,710: 2m) (8 runners)

1	000-203	MISTER DRUM 58 (D,G,S) (M Batchelor) M Wilkinson 7-12-0	P Crowley (7)	[illegible]
2	212161	MOST EQUAL 16 (CD,F,S) ([illegible]) M Pipe 6-11-11	J Lower	95
3	2/3FF51	ERLKING 11F (B,D,G) (S Tindall) S Mellor 6-11-?	N Mann	96
4	02/31-00	SECRETARY OF STATE 18F (D,G) ([illegible]) D Arbuthnot 10-10-12	J Osborne	83
5	242-402	GOLDINGO 4 (D,S) (G Price) G Price 9-10-11	A P McCoy	96
6	30421-0	BARQAISH 9 (G) (F Dale) M Barraclough 9-10-2	G Lee (3)	88
7	U21P-FF	*RAINHAM 34 (D,S) (F Collins) D McCain 9-10-0*	A Maguire	–
8	/403P0	PUSEY STREET BOY 4 (D,F) ([illegible]) J Bosley 9-10-0	I Lawrence	–

Long handicap: Rainham 9-3, Pusey Street Boy 9-11

BETTING: 6-4 Most Equal, 5-2 Mister Drum, 4-1 Erlking, 7-1 Goldingo, 8-1 Secretary Of State, 12-1 Barqaish, 14-1 Pusey Street Boy, 20-1 Rainham.

FORM FOCUS

MISTER DRUM 3l 2nd of 6 to Silver Groom in Sandown handicap hurdle (2m 110yd, good to firm). MOST EQUAL beat King's Cross 1¾l in 12-runner course and distance handicap hurdle (good to soft). ERLKING beat Eulogy 9l in 16-runner Hereford selling hurdle (2m 1f, good). SECRETARY OF STATE 40l 7th of 10 to Bookcase in Exeter handicap hurdle (2m 2f, good). GOLDINGO 7l 2nd of 13 to Dress Dance in 13-runner handicap hurdle at Taunton (2m 1f, good to soft). BARQAISH beat easy Rhymer 5½l in 16-runner conditional jockeys selling handicap hurdle at Sedgefield (2m 1f, good) penultimate start, Feb 1995.
Selection: MOST EQUAL

NATIONAL HUNT LEADERS

TRAINERS

	1st	2nd	3rd	Runs since win	Level stake
M Pipe	100	57	43	3	-9.00
P Hobbs	49	38	35	8	-12.29
N Twiston-Davies	43	36	27	6	-31.51
Mrs M Reveley	46	28	19	5	-56.22
G Richards	43	26	11	1	+26.66
D Nicholson	43	40	23	2	-16.31
K Bailey	39	33	37	1	-44.79
J White	33	25	29	40	-59.37
P Nicholls	30	29	14	33	-8.57
G Balding	30	26	21	15	+1.95
Miss H Knight	29	22	16	1	-5.74
Mrs J Pitman	32	20	14	1	+41.26

JOCKEYS

	1st	2nd	3rd	Losing sequence	Level stake
A P McCoy	104	69	54	2	+80.11
D Bridgwater	94	54	46	10	-18.90
P Niven	51	33	23	3	-37.27
A Maguire	49	42	42	1	-71.98
R Dunwoody	46	35	41	1	-61.13
L Wyer	43	24	25	1	+55.52
A Dobbin	39	25	22	3	+4.74
C Llewellyn	37	30	19	1	-22.83
J Osborne	36	36	32	2	-91.70
M A Fitzgerald	35	44	42	17	-95.98
W Marston	31	35	30	1	-88.93
J Titley	30	23	18	8	-16.25

1996
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Dare gives masterly display on comeback

POINT-TO-POINT
BY CARL EVANS

ALISON DARE, five times women's champion rider, celebrated a winning comeback on Down The Mine at Barbury Castle on Saturday. She had been out of action since breaking her leg in March.

Initial pain mellows, but there is a deeper anguish in being on the sidelines. After 19 seasons' riding without so much as breaking a finger, Dare's incapacitation was frustrating, particularly when other riders substituted on horses trained by her mentor, Dick Bainbridge.

"I wanted a good, safe horse for her return," Bainbridge said when the **Point-to-point Owners and Riders Club** meeting produced a competitive ladies' open race.

Fifteen went to post but 14 were just supporting players from the moment the flag fell as Down The Mine made all, his partner producing a masterly display in the saddle. Dare sat quietly until the final bend, where she simply coaxed Down The Mine with a rhythm that kept them ahead of Workingforpeanuts and Pamela's Lad.

"I'm not a positive person and I have had to force myself to be that way to get through." Dare said, after returning on her 201st winner, whose target could be the Fox Hunters' Chase at Aintree.

Richard Russell knows about injury, too. He broke his neck when unseated from Teaplanter at Cheltenham and will never ride again. Ben Pollock took charge as Russell's 13-year-old registered his 21st victory in the first division of the Land Rover open, in a time ten seconds faster than Howaryasun took the second division.

Chris Gordon broke a leg while riding Prime Course at the Waveney on Saturday.

RESULTS: POINT-TO-POINT OWNERS' CLUB (Barbury Castle): Hunt: 1, Flame O'Frensi (Miss J Cumings, 9-1). Novice Riders I: 1, Fair Crossing (M Emmanuel, 8-1). Novice Riders (Div II part I): 1, Glitzy Lady (G Smith, 3-1). Novice Riders (Div II part II): 1, Getaway Blake (R Thornton, 12-1). Open I: 1, Teaplanter (B Pollock, 7-4 Jt fav). Open II: 1, Howaryasun (D S Jones, 20-1). Ladies: 1, Down The Mine (Miss A Dare, 9-4fav). Rest I: 1, Broad Steane (A Sansome, 3-1). Rest II: 1, Tea Man (J Mace, 20-1).

WAVENEY (Higham): Hunt: 1, As You Were (D Parravani, 1-3 fav). Confined: 1, Craftsman (Miss G Chown, 7-4). Open: 1, Strong Gold (T McCarthy, 4-7 fav). Ladies: 1, Richard Hunt (Miss L Rowe, 1-3 fav). Mdn: 1, Snake Five (S Sporborg, 10-11). Rest I: 1, Stormhill Pilgrim (P Hacking, 4-1). Rest II: 1, Miss Construe (N Bloom, 20-1).

NEWTON ABBOT

THUNDERER
1.30 Honey Bun. 2.00 Silver Shred. 2.30 Sovereign Niche. 3.00 Sister Stephanie. 3.30 Karar. 4.00 Super Tactics. 4.30 Palosanto.

GOING: HEAVY (8AM INSPECTION) SIS

1.30 TEIGNMOUTH MAIDEN HURDLE (£2,369: 2m 1f) (16 runners)

1	6	AMBLESIDE 114 Mrs S Williams 5-11-10	A Tory	72
2	3	CRACKING PROSPECT 83 B Millman 5-11-10	D Salter (5)	[illegible]
3		GOLDEN NEWS P Rodford 5-11-10	S Burrough	–
4	4-0	HOLDIMCLOSE 42 R Frost 6-11-10	J Frost	94
5	00P-	*KIRSTY'S PAL 285 D Bloomfield 7-11-10*	R Darke	–
6	P	MONEGHETTI 46 M Pipe 5-11-10	Jamie Evans	–
7		THINAMI R Hodges 7-11-10	T Dascombe (5)	–
8		TUDOR TOWN K Bishop 8-11-10	L Harvey	–
9	4003	UNCLE BERT 34 Mrs M McCourt 6-11-10	G McCourt	91
10	/00-	DANCING BAREFOOT 333 M Bolton 7-11-5	P Hide	–
11	54	HONEY BUN 7 (B) M Pipe 5-11-5	D Bridgwater	96
12	130	MY OLD CHINA 11 (F) A Foster 7-11-5	C Llewellyn	–
13	5P-	VALLEY'S CHOICE 262 S Stevens 7-11-5	Mr L Jefford	–
14		GOLDEN POUND 5F Miss G Kelleway 4-10-12	R Dunwoody	–
15		MU-TADIL 124F R Baker 4-10-12	B Powell	–
16	40	UNITED FRONT 5 R O'Sullivan 4-10-12	D O'Sullivan	92

3-1 Honey Bun, 7-2 Cracking Prospect, 6-1 Holdimclose, Golden Pound, 12-1 Moneghetti, 14-1 Ambleside, 16-1 others.

2.00 HOECHST PANACUR EBF MARES NATIONAL HUNT NOVICES HURDLE (£2,549: 2m 6f) (16)

1	-461	MISS DISKIN 7 (D,S) R Buckler 7-11-5	B Powell	[illegible]
2	2-16	QUEENFORD BELLE 18 (G,S) Miss H Knight 6-11-5	G F Ryan (5)	90
3	-231	SILVER SHRED 16 (F,S) M Pipe 5-11-5	O Burrows (7)	88
4	50	CARMEL'S JOY 39 T George 7-10-12	R Dunwoody	–
5	40-0	CERIDWEN 33 T Greathead 6-10-12	W Humphreys	–
6	6-P0	*CRAVATE 4 Mrs J Mills 6-10-12*	*D Salter (5)*	–
7	600	DEARDS SMASHER 32 N Smith 7-10-12	J Ryan	–
8	10	LA BELLA VILLA 37 (F) N Twiston-Davies 6-10-12	C Llewellyn	–
9	0	LADY NOSO 11 Mrs J Pitman 5-10-12	R Farrant	80
10	00-	NOMINATION GOLD 296 B Palling 6-10-12	C Maude	–
11	6	POLLYDALUS 58 Mrs M McCourt 5-10-12	B Clifford	–
12	060	QUINAG 33 K Bailey 5-10-12	T J Murphy (3)	–
13		SEASONS Mrs D Thomas 7-10-12	A Larnach (3)	–
14	FP	THIRD MELODY 17 (F) J Mullins 10-10-12	S Curran (3)	–
15	0/0	UP THE TEMPO 52 P Farrell 7-10-12	J R Kavanagh	–
16	0P-0	VEXFORD MODEL 215 V Greenway 6-10-12	Guy Lewis (3)	63

9-4 Silver Shred, 3-1 Queenford Belle, 9-2 Miss Diskin, 7-1 La Bella Villa, 16-1 Lady Noso, 20-1 Quinag, 25-1 others

2.30 NEWTON ABBOT SELLING HANDICAP CHASE (£2,857: 2m 110yd) (10)

1	0P6-	GOLDEN OPAL 266 (D,G,S) R Buckler 11-12-0	B Powell	–
2	0-2P	SOVEREIGN NICHE 4 (V,F,G,S) M Pipe 8-11-11	D Bridgwater	91
3	-5P4	AGRA 74 (B,CD,S) M Pipe 8-11-9	Jamie Evans	91
4	-302	EVENING RAIN 54 (CD,F,G,S) R Hodges 10-11-4	R Dunwoody	98
5	-653	PRUDENT PEGGY 58 (C,S) R Frost 9-11-1	J Frost	89
6	/F/	MARTIN'S FRIEND 751 (F,S) D Bloomfield 13-10-13	R Darke	–
7	25PU	EMRAL MISS 7 (B) C Popham 8-10-7	T Dascombe (5)	88
8	6542	*FULL SHILLING 37 (V,BF) K Burke 7-10-1*	*A Larnach (3)*	[illegible]
9	0-P0	DAVES DELIGHT 21 (S) Miss S Waterman 10-10-0	Mr G Shenkin (7)	–
10	-PP0	TOLL BRIDGE 52 J Payne 9-10-0	Mr S Mulcaire	–

3-1 Evening Rain, 7-2 Agra, 5-1 Golden Opal, Prudent Peggy, 6-1 Sovereign Niche, 7-1 Full Shilling, 12-1 Martin's Friend, 14-1 others.

3.00 BET WITH THE TOTE NOVICES CHASE (Qualifier: £3,201: 3m 2f 110yd) (5)

1	1124	COURT MELODY 9 (B,CD,G,S) P Nicholls 8-11-12	P Hide	78
2	-214	BEAUREPAIRE 18 (D,BF,S) R Alner 8-11-5	S McNeill	65
3	0	BOHEMIAN HARMONY 38 Miss C Johnsey 6-10-12	G Hogan (3)	–
4	F32F	MOBILE MESSENGER 18 (S) T George 8-10-12	D Bridgwater	77
5	/1-2	SISTER STEPHANIE 17 (G,S) Mrs M McCourt 7-10-7	R Dunwoody	[illegible]

5-4 Court Melody, 11-8 Sister Stephanie, 5-1 Beaurepaire, 8-1 Mobile Messenger, 25-1 Bohemian Harmony.

3.30 PLYMOUTH HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,814: 3m 3f) (11 runners)

1	2140	KARAR 9 (F,G,S) R Rowe 6-11-10	D O'Sullivan	98
2	-P2F	THE BOILER WHITE 46 (F,S) T Thomson Jones 8-11-6	G McCourt	89
3	6026	JADIDH 7 (C,F,G,S) C Wildman 8-11-5	D Salter (5)	94
4	FFR0	BETTER BYTHE GLASS 3 (S) N Twiston-Davies 7-11-3	C Maude	86
5	3-40	SNOWY LANE 7 (B,G,S) J Neville 8-11-2	D Gallagher	82
6	1-20	PRINCE OF SALERNO 51 (S) N Gaselee 9-11-1	C Llewellyn	95
7	4/P	SEA PATROL 7 (B,F) M Pipe 9-10-11	Jamie Evans	–
8	P-01	MONTAGNARD 42 (C,G,S) M Bradstock 12-10-10	P Holley	[illegible]
9	4863	THE MINDER 18 (S) C Edwards 9-10-7	R Dunwoody	98
10	2-35	ST VILLE 42 (D,G,S) R Buckler 10-10-5	B Powell	91
11	3-F5	IT'S NOT MY FAULT 17 (G,S) P Jones 8-10-0	Mr J Culloty (7)	94

7-2 The Minder, 5-1 Montagnard, 6-1 Prince of Salerno, 7-1 Karar, Sea Patrol, 8-1 Better Bythe Glass, 10-1 Jadidh, 12-1 others.

4.00 EXETER HANDICAP CHASE (£3,765: 2m 5f 110yd) (9)

1	-P1P	TERAO 9 (S) M Pipe 10-12-0	D Bridgwater	[illegible]
2	-P5P	JAILBREAKER 11 (C,G,S) B Millman 9-11-3	D Salter (5)	98
3	0432	SUPER TACTICS 17 (G,S) R Alner 8-11-2	Mr P Henley (5)	98
4	6-3U	KINGS CHERRY 9 (S) R Buckler 8-10-12	Mr G Baines (7)	–
5	1F14	BRAMBLEHILL BUCK 13 (B,CD,S) P Nicholls 7-10-10	R Dunwoody	94
6	23P-	POP SONG 271 (CD,F,G,S) G Roe 12-10-9	J Railton	97
7	/R6	MAPLE DANCER 42 (F,G) D Barons 10-10-7	Mr G Shenkin (7)	–
8	552U	SCOTONI 7 (F,G,S) R O'Sullivan 10-10-5	D O'Sullivan	93
9	3542	CLEAR IDEA 42 (CD,F,G) R Frost 8-10-2	J Frost	94

3-1 Bramblehill Buck, 7-2 Clear Idea, 5-1 Super Tactics, 6-1 Terao, Scotoni, 7-1 Jailbreaker, 10-1 others.

4.30 TRIPLEPRINT INTERMEDIATE OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (£1,572: 2m 1f) (16)

1	1U2-	LORD MCMURROUGH 335 (S) J Neville 6-11-12	R Dunwoody	–
2		ARTIC EXPLORER G Ham 5-11-5	S Burrough	–
3	0-	*BOXGROVE MAN 317 J Old 5-11-5*	T Grantham	–
4	0-	INDIAN TRACKER 385 M Pipe 6-11-5	C Maude	–
5	2	PALOSANTO 37 M Pipe 5-11-5	D Bridgwater	–
6	5	PARADE RACER 37 P Murphy 5-11-5	E Murphy	–
7	5-	RIOT LEADER 268 J Edwards 6-11-5	Mr M Daly (7)	–
8	02	SUTHERLAND MOSS 32 (BF) D Nicholson 5-11-5	R Massey (5)	–
9	3	THE PROMS 17 N Twiston-Davies 5-11-5	D Walsh (5)	–
10	0	TWICE SHY 17 C Broad 5-11-5	Mr A Wintle (7)	–
11		ARTHUR'S SPECIAL R Baker 6-11-0	T Dascombe (5)	–
12		CLAUDIA'S WAY Mrs J Mills 5-11-0	Mr R Mills	–
13		TRACEY TROOPER R Frost 5-11-0	J Frost	–
14	0	XYLOTYMBOU 17 G Thorner 5-11-0	Clare Thorner (7)	–
15		BID FOR TOOLS A Newcombe 4-10-7	D Gallagher	–
16		SANDVILLE LAD Mrs D Thomas 4-10-7	R Farrant	–

7-2 Sutherland Moss, 4-1 Palosanto, 5-1 The Proms, 10-1 Lord McMurrough, 12-1 Boxgrove Man, Parade Racer, 14-1 Riot Leader, 16-1 others.

SOUTHWELL

THUNDERER
1.40 Karinska. 2.10 Guy's Gamble. 2.40 Alzoomo. 3.10 Katie Oliver. 3.40 Sir Tasker. 4.10 Dissentor.

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 1.40 **KINGCHIP BOY** (nap). 2.10 Foreman. 4.10 Serious Fact.

GOING: STANDARD DRAW: NO ADVANTAGE SIS

1.40 CHAMPAGNE GOLD HANDICAP (£3,189: 1m) (14 runners)

101	-521	BENJAMINS LAW 7 (CD,G) J Pickering 5-10-5 (6ex)	J Quinn 11
102	0-00	WHACKFORD SQUEERS 14 (D,G) D Nicholls 4-10-0	Alex Greaves 4
103	30-3	*KARINSKA 17 (CD,F,G) M Chapman 6-9-10*	*C Munday (7) 8*
104	10-4	LEGAL ISSUE 14 (F) W Haigh 4-9-9	Dale Gibson 13
105	100-	TWIN CREEKS 81J (C,F,G) M Hammond 5-9-5	R Cochrane 12
106	008-	LORD PALMERSTON 60J K Morgan 4-9-2	L Newton (5) 14
107	0-01	KINGCHIP BOY 7 (V,CD,F,G) M Ryan 7-9-2 (6ex)	T Ives 3
108	463-	SUPERBIT 51 (G) B McMahon 4-8-12	J Fortune 2
109	00-0	MAZILLA 7 (CD,G) A Streeter 4-8-11	F Norton 7
110	22-5	INCHESTER LASS 10 (B,F,G) S Bowring 4-8-8	C Teague (5) 6
111	05-4	DIA GEORGY 18 (D,F,G,S) Mrs N Macauley 5-8-6	M Tebbutt 5
112	650-	MEZZORAMIO 128J (V) K Morgan 4-8-4	M Fenton 9
113	13-2	REAL MADRID 11 (V,D,G,S) G Enright 5-8-3	N Adams 1
114	00-0	BROUGHTON'S PORT 14 W Musson 6-7-12	A Mackay 10

4-1 Benjamins Law, 9-2 Karinska, 5-1 Legal Issue, Kingchip Boy, 6-1 Real Madrid, 7-1 Superbit, 8-1 Inchester Lass, 10-1 others.

2.10 SCARLET FLAME HANDICAP (3-Y-O: £2,572: 1m) (16)

201	64-5	DIRAB 12 T Barron 9-7	J Fortune 3
202	66-2	YEOMAN OLIVER 12 B McMahon 9-7	L Newton (5) 10
203	046-	FOREMAN 54 (G) W O'Gorman 9-3	Emma O'Gorman 14
204	000-	VICTORY COMMANDER 145 T Naughton 9-2	T Ashley (7) 8
205	0-1	GUY'S GAMBLE 14 (C,G) J Wharton 9-2	J Fanning 6
206	41-4	APARTMENTS ABROAD 20 (BF,D,G) K McAuliffe 9-1	J F Egan 15
207	6-64	THE WAD 17 (B) D Nicholls 9-1	Alex Greaves 7
208	0-22	ARCH ANGEL 7 (G) D French Davis 9-0	N Adams 5
209	06-3	DANCING CAVALIER 14 R Hollinshead 8-13	F Lynch (7) 9
210	050-	MISS OFFSET 130 (B,G,S) M Johnston 8-12	J Weaver 1
211	000-	ONEFOURSEVEN 158 (B) S Bowring 8-11	N Carlisle 11
212	040-	COCOON 130 C Thornton 8-9	D McKeown 16
213	400-	KILLATTY LARK 116 W Musson 8-6	P McCabe (3) 2
214	0-04	ERIPETITE 14 N Bycroft 8-6	J Quinn 12
215	002-	TINA KATERINA 56 R Champion 8-4	P Fessey (5) 13
216	00-0	MY MOTHER'S LOCAL 11 K Cunningham-Brown 8-1	D Biggs 4

5-1 Tina Katerina, Guy's Gamble, 6-1 Yeoman Oliver, Arch Angel, 7-1 Foreman, Dirab, Dancing Cavalier, 8-1 others.

2.40 BLUE VELVET HANDICAP (£3,189: 1m 3f) (13)

301	240-	WONDERFUL DAY 90 (F) T Clement 5-10-0	J Stack (3) 11
302	0-00	SLMAAT 14 (B,CD,G,S) D Nicholls 5-9-12	Alex Greaves 2
303	U13-	ASHOVER 109 (CD,F,G,S) T Barron 6-9-12	Kim Hart (7) 1
304	03-2	ALZOOMO 17 J Glover 4-9-10	S D Williams 10
305	-246	BEAUMAN 10 (S) P Evans 6-9-7	J Fortune 3
306	04-0	QUEENS STROLLER 11 (C,G) T Wall 5-9-6	P McCabe (3) 8
307	4-00	ELITE JUSTICE 7 (F) N Tinkler 4-9-3	Kim Tinkler 13
308	30-0	PEACEFULL REPLY 12 (F) F Lee 6-8-7	R Cochrane 5
309	66-5	MILL DANCER 7 (F,S) E Alston 4-8-5	D Wright (3) 6
310	566-	*DRUMMER HICKS 52 (F,G,S) E Weymes 7-8-4*	Dale Gibson 7
311	000-	BOLD ACRE 46J (S) D Burchell 6-8-2	A Mackay 9
312	0-22	CAROL AGAIN 7 N Bycroft 4-7-10	J Quinn 4
313	00/	DARIKA LAD 587 (F) A Harrison 8-7-10	L Charnock 12

5-2 Carol Again, 3-1 Ashover, 7-2 Alzoomo, 5-1 Beauman, 8-1 Mill Dancer, 12-1 Wonderful Day, 16-1 others.

3.10 JADE JEWEL MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES (£2,572: 1m 4f) (7)

401	4	BESCABY 14 J Wharton 5-9-2	J Quinn 1
402	5/5	I'LL BE BOUND 14 W Musson 5-9-2	P McCabe (3) 4
403	02-5	FORZAIR 10 S Bowring 4-8-12	C Teague (5) 6
404	00-2	ZESTI 14 T Clement 4-8-12	J Stack (3) 5
405		FIORENZ K McAuliffe 4-8-7	M Tebbutt 2
406	550-	KATIE OLIVER 95 B Smart 4-8-7	R Cochrane 7
407	60-0	LADY ELIZABETH B K Cunningham-Brown 4-8-7	L Charnock 3

6-5 Forzair, 6-4 Katie Oliver, 7-1 Zesti, 12-1 Fiorenz, 20-1 I'll Be Bound, 50-1 Bescaby, Lady Elizabeth.

3.40 SILVER ICE SELLING STAKES (£2,607: 6f) (15)

501	00-0	BOLD ARISTOCRAT 12 (CD,G) R Hollinshead 5-9-7	F Lynch (7) 13
502	30-3	DEEPLY VALE 11 (S) G L Moore 5-9-7	A Clark 8
503	40-0	ELTON LEDGER 7 (CD,F) Mrs N Macauley 7-9-7	C Teague (5) 12
504	00U-	FIRST OPTION 148 (D,F,G,S) R Bastiman 6-9-7	H Bastiman (5) 7
505	*00-0*	*FLASHING SABRE 12 (B,F) J Berry 4-9-7*	S D Williams 15
506	00-0	MONKEY'S WEDDING 10 (B,C,D,G,S) J Berry 5-9-7	Le Tolboll 2
507	21-0	SEA DEVIL 10 (CD,F,G,S) M Camacho 10-9-7	L Charnock 6
508	40-2	SIR TASKER 12 (C,D,F,G) J L Harris 8-9-7	J Weaver 4
509	0/4	TAME DEER 3 W O'Gorman 4-9-7	Emma O'Gorman 3
510	00-3	BROOKHEAD LADY 12 (D,F,G,S) P Evans 5-9-2	J Fortune 10
511	00-0	LE BAL 17 (B) Miss J Craze 4-9-2	R Cochrane 9
512	00-6	LEGATEE 7 (F,G) A Streeter 5-9-2	F Norton 14
513	000-	NADWATY 52 (C,G) M Chapman 4-9-2	C Munday (7) 1
514	0-00	PRIMULA BAIRN 10 (B,G,S) D Nicholls 6-9-2	Alex Greaves 5
515	20-0	RUPERT'S PRINCESS 10 (B,S) M Heaton-Ellis 4-9-2	S Drowne (3) 11

4-1 Deeply Vale, 5-1 Sir Tasker, Sea Devil, 6-1 Elton Ledger, 7-1 Brookhead Lady, 8-1 First Option, 10-1 others.

4.10 PURPLE IRIS HANDICAP (£3,218: 6f) (15)

601	41-0	ENCORE M'LADY 7 (B,D,BF,F,G) F Lee 5-9-13	R Cochrane 15
602	0-00	TENOR 4 (G) D Nicholls 5-9-7	Alex Greaves 7
603	05-1	*FAIREY FIREFLY 10 (CD,F,G) M Camacho 5-9-3*	L Charnock 4
604	4-22	AWESOME VENTURE 7 (S) M Chapman 6-9-1	C Munday (7) 3
605	10-3	MY CHERRYWELL 10 (B,CD,G,S) L L-James 6-9-1	T Williams 11
606	15-0	MOST UPPITTY 10 (CD,F) J Berry 4-8-13	Joanna Webster (7) 13
607	060-	PHARAOH'S DANCER 58 (CD,S) P Burgoyne 9-8-11	M Wigham 12
608	5-01	DISSENTOR 10 (V,CD,G) J Glover 4-8-11	J Weaver 2
609	0-65	DAAWE 7 (V,G,S) Mrs V Aconley 5-8-10	M Deering 14
610	00-0	GREY CHARMER 10 (D,F,G,S) C James 7-8-4	Dale Gibson 8
611	000-	CHEERFUL GROOM 94 (F) S Bowring 5-7-13	N Carlisle 9
612	05-2	SERIOUS FACT 10 (BF) M Prescott 4-7-11	G Bardwell 6
613	*06-0*	*DOUBLE GLOW 10 (B,C,F,G) N Bycroft 4-7-10*	J Quinn 10
614	00-0	CHLOELLA 10 C Booth 4-7-10	N Kennedy 1
615	06-4	RENNYHOLME 19 (B) J Hetherton 5-7-10	N Adams 5

9-2 Awesome Venture, 5-1 Serious Fact, Dissentor, Fairey Firefly, 6-1 My Cherrywell, 10-1 Rennyholme, 12-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

SOUTHWELL: Trainers: K McAuliffe, 4 winners from 15 runners, 26.7%; M Ryan, 17 from 71, 23.9%; M Johnston, 32 from 170, 18.8%; M Prescott, 18 from 99, 18.2%; W O'Gorman, 31 from 175, 17.7%; E Weymes, 3 from 17, 17.6%. Jockeys: Kim Hart, 7 winners from 23 rides, 30.4%; D Biggs, 31 from 165, 18.8%; J Weaver, 36 from 197, 18.3%; T Ives, 19 from 112, 17%; R Cochrane, 24 from 144, 16.7%.

NEWTON ABBOT: Trainers: J Old, 7 winners from 20 runners, 35.0%; R O'Sullivan, 9 from 26, 34.6%; D Nicholson, 5 from 16, 31.3%; M Pipe, 93 from 324, 28.7%; P Nicholls, 24 from 94, 25.5%; J Edwards, 7 from 29, 24.1%. Jockeys: T Grantham, 3 winners from 9 rides, 33.3%; R Dunwoody, 51 from 172, 29.7%; D Bridgwater, 20 from 78, 25.6%; G McCourt, 12 from 50, 24.0%; B Clifford, 9 from 42, 21.4%.

ATHLETICS

SEVILLE, Spain: IAAF world cross-country challenge series: Men (8.25 miles): 1, H Gebrselassie (Eth) 28mins 59sec; 2, D Komen (Ken) 29.05; 3, P Guerra (Por) 29.08; 4, E Molina (Sp) 29.20; 5, A Anton (Sp) 29.22; 6, K Kororia (Ken) 29.23. British: 7, A Pearson 29.24; 13, K Cullen 29.48; 18, S White 30.14; 19, R Quinn 30.15. Overall standings: 1, J Kariuki (Ken) 74pts; 2, P Mosima (Ken) 64; 3, S Kororia (Ken) 47; 4, Komen 44; 5, A Mezegebu (Eth) 41; 5, R Walem (Bel) 41. British: 9, Pearson 36; 10, C Sweeney 35; 11, J Nuttall 32; 20, Cullen 22; 21, T Hanlon 20. Women (3.5 miles): 1, A Sandell (Fin) 17.57; 2, G Szabo (Rom) 18.08; 3, E Fidatov (Rom) 18.11; 4, R Maraqi (Mor) 18.16; 5, M Bastos (Por) 18.26; 6, P Konga (Ken) 18.31. British: 11, A Hulley 18.49. Overall standings: 1, R Cheruiyot (Ken) 91; 2, Fidatov 74; 3, G Wami (Eth) 54; 4, P Radcliffe (GB) 50; 4, Sandell 50; 6, Konga 45. British: 8, S Rigg 31; 12, Hulley 25; 12, V McPherson 25; 25, A Wyeth 17; 30, L Watson 15.

BOSTON, Massachusetts: Harvard University Invitational Meeting (US unless stated): Men: 55m: 1, X Council 6.28sec; 2, R Tolbert 6.29. 800m: 1, D Kiptoo 1min 59.32sec; 2, B Lucas 1:51.08. 3km walk: 1, A James 11.30.36; 2, T Seaman 11:38.67. Long jump: 1, P Knox 767m; 2, R Hawkins 765. Women: 55m: 1, C Brantle 6.90sec; 2, L Williams 6.99. 55m hurdles: 1, C Dickey 7.75 sec; 2, L Tashin (Can) 7.76. 3km walk: 1, M Torrellas 13min 30.10sec; 2, S Standley 13:45.46. Long jump: C Brantle 627m.

HO CHI MINH: International Marathon: Men: 1, P DeVocht (Bel) 2hr 30min 40sec; 2, A Ballester (Phi) 2:31.10; 3, A Costa (Por) 2:31.27; 4, M Sellam (Mor) 2:32.21; 5, H Jones (GB) 2:32.30. Women: 1, W Kryza (Pol) 2:44.36; 2, L Belaeva (Rus) 2:55.58; 3, G Guryanova (Rus) 2:56.01; 4, Y Gordon (HK) 3:02.57.

CRYSTAL PALACE: South of England indoor championships: Men: 60m: 1, T Stamp (Newham and Essex Beagles) 6.8 (equals championship record); 2, J Fergus (Belgrave) 6.9; 3, M Okotie (Thames Valley) 6.9. 60m hurdles: 1, M Lambeth (Haringey) 8.2; 2, M Clements (Haringey) 8.3; 3, A Carter (Thames Valley) 8.6. Women: 60m: 1, E Reinalda (Essex Ladies) 7.5; 2, E McKenzie (Ealing, Southall and Middlesex) 7.6; 3, S Cheesey (Essex Ladies) 7.8. 60m hdls: 1, M Wilkins (Aldershot, Farnham and District) 8.8; 2, O Bermingham (Essex Ladies) 9.0; 3, T Copeland (Medway) 9.0.

SHEFFIELD: North of England indoor championships: Men: High jump: 1, R Brocklebank (Blackburn) 2.15m; 2, I Massey (Liverpool) 2.05; 3, D Graham (Liverpool) 2.05. Long jump: 1, M Lawrence (Leeds) 6.82; 2, G Jones (Wigan) 6.78; 3, S Rowbotham (Rotherham) 6.72. Triple jump: 1, D Sanderson (Sale) 14.87; 2, J Wiggins (Blackburn) 13.78; 3, R Birbeck (Hyndburn) 13.08. Women: High jump: 1, S Jones (Wigan) 1.80 (Championship record); 2, K Thirkle (Sale) and J Jennings (Essex Ladies) 1.80. Long jump: 1, V Schofield (Rotherham) 6m; 2, A Brooks (Hull) 5.72; 3, M Gee (Rotherham) 5.45. Triple jump: M Still (Wakefield) 12.13m (Championship record).

BADMINTON

TOKYO: Japanese Open Championships: Finals: Singles: Men: J Suprianto (Indo) bt H Arbi (Indo) 15-12, 13-18, 15-4. Women: Y Zhaoying (China) bt S Susanti (Indo) 11-7, 11-8. Doubles: Men: R Subagja and R Mainaky (Indo) bt M Gunawan and B Suprianto (Indo) 15-8, 12-15, 15-12. Women: Gil Young-ah and Jang Hye-ock (S Kor) bt Ge Fei and Gu Jun (China) 15-5, 14-17, 15-10. Mixed doubles: Park Joo-bong and Ra Kyung-min (S Kor) bt Kim Dong-moon and Gil Young-ah (S Kor) 15-7, 15-1.

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Indiana 89 Detroit 81; Philadelphia 77 Atlanta 82; Washington 93 New Jersey 87; Miami 106 Charlotte 114; Minnesota 100 San Antonio 92; Dallas 129 Boston 124; Utah 111 Orlando 99; Portland 101 Phoenix 84; LA Clippers 100 LA Lakers 106; Seattle 97 New York 100 (OT).

BUDWEISER LEAGUE: Leicester 84 Hemel 79, Manchester 90 Derby 79; Thames Valley 66 London 79, Worthing 89 Birmingham 100.

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
London	17	14	3	1469	1233	28
Sheffield	16	13	3	1351	1072	26
Manchester	17	12	5	1496	1408	24
Leopards	16	11	5	1403	1340	22
Worthing	17	11	6	1619	1540	22
Derby	19	10	9	1685	1618	20
Birmingham	18	10	8	1677	1580	20
Doncaster	18	7	11	1400	1611	14
Thames Valley	19	7	12	1660	1719	14
Newcastle	18	6	12	1609	1753	12
Leicester	18	5	13	1306	1487	10
Chester	19	5	14	1573	1697	10
Hemel	18	4	14	1428	1600	8

BOWLS

LIBERTY TROPHY: Quarter-finals (Newark). Durham 119 Northamptonshire 97. (Bromsgrove): Cornwall 129 Yorkshire 104. (Rushden) Wiltshire 127 Norfolk 118. (Desborough, Maidenhead) Essex 124 Hampshire 111.

BOXING

MANSFIELD LEISURE CENTRE: World Boxing Organisation bantamweight Championship (12rds): Daniel Jiminez (Puerto Rico, holder) bt Drew Docherty (Glasgow) pts. Undercard: Heavyweight (8rds): Clifton Mitchell (Derby) bt Jimmy Ellis (US) ko 1st; (4rds): Pele Reid (Birmingham) bt Joey Paladino (St Helens) rsc 1st; (6rds): Kelly Oliver (Lincoln) bt Steve Osborne (Nottingham) rsc 4th. Cruiserweight (8rds): Dirk Wallyn (Bel) bt Eric Nicoletta (Fr) rsc 3rd. (8rds): Johnny Nelson (Sheffield) bt Tony Booth (Sheffield) rsc 2nd. Middleweight (8rds): Ryan Rhodes (Sheffield) bt John Duckworth (Burnley) rsc 2nd. Welterweight (8rds): Jonathan Thaxton (Norwich) bt John O'Johnson (Nottingham) rsc 4th. Light-welterweight (6rds). James Hare (Huddersfield) bt Brian Coleman (Birmingham) pts.

NINOY AQUINO STADIUM, Manila: Vacant World Boxing Federation welterweight Championship (12rds): Jaime Llerma (Mex) bt William Magahin (Phil) rsc 10th.

SYDNEY: International Boxing Federation junior-welterweight Championship (12rds): Kostya Tszyu (Aus, holder) bt Hugo Pineda (Col) rsc 11th.

CYCLING

CYCLO-CROSS: MTS Cycle Sport (Hetton Lyons, Sunderland, 12 miles): 1, N Clough (SWaledale CC) 55min 30sec; 2, V Potter (Dewes RT) at 2:05; 3, D Howard (Bike Scene) at 2:38. Mansfield RC (Clipstone Forest, 9 miles): 1, G Hardwicke (Long Eaton Paragon) 52:17; 2, D Alexander (Brook CC) same time; 3, V Potter (Dewes RT) at 53sec. Notts and Derbys League: Standings: 1, I Matthews (Beeston RC) 751pts; 2, J Taylor (Brook CC) 720; 3, R Gilbert (Belper RC) 631. Oxonian CC (Great Haseley, 10 miles): 1, J Biann (Southampton Wheelers) 51:26; 2, G Richardson (Coventry Olympic CC) at 1:21; 3, J Henderson (Oxford University CC) at 1:43.

GOLF

CAPE TOWN: South African Open: Third-round scores (South Africa unless stated): 209: E Els 65, 70, 74. 210: M McNulty (Zim) 71, 71, 68; B Pappas 72, 68, 70; D Howell (GB) 66, 74, 70; K Stone 67, 70, 73. 211: R Goosen 71, 72, 68; B Ott (US) 72, 69, 70; P Horgan (US) 72, 69, 70; G Levenson 73, 68, 70; M Scholz 69, 70, 72. 212: M Archer (GB) 71, 72, 69. 213: B Lincoln 73, 71, 69; A Pitts (US) 72, 69, 72; C Davison (GB) 69, 71, 73. 214: P Moore (US) 76, 72, 66; T Dodds (Nam) 70, 76, 68; G Reid 74, 72, 68; S van der Merwe 71, 73, 70; J Hobday 74, 68, 72; D James 70, 70, 74. 215: B Liddle 72, 76, 67; R Kaplan 70, 74, 71; D van Staden 71, 73, 71; W Schutte 72, 72, 71; R Freeman (US) 70, 72, 73. 216: M Murless 76, 72, 68; J McHenry (Ire) 71, 76, 69; J Kingston 73, 73, 70; B Vaughan (US) 73, 71, 72.

PALM DESERT, California: Bob Hope Classic: Fourth-round scores (US unless stated): 270: M Brooks 66, 68, 69, 67; P Stewart 71, 65, 71, 63; J Huston 69, 71, 65, 65; J Maggert 69, 68, 69, 64. 271: F Couples 72, 67, 67, 65; N Henke 69, 69, 64, 69. 272: J Parnevik (Swe) 72, 68, 65, 67; B Bryant 71, 65, 65, 71; P Goydos 69, 64, 70, 69. 273: T Kite 68, 68, 69, 68; F Allem (SA) 68, 68, 67, 70; J Furyk 72, 67, 67, 67. 274: D Hammond 67, 69, 67, 71; S Hoch 70, 69, 67, 68. Other score: 278: S Lyle 72, 69, 68, 69.

DORADO, Puerto Rico: US Seniors' tournament of Champions: Second-round scores (US unless stated): 137: J Bland (SA) 69, 68; J Colbert 67, 70. 138: L Trevino 69, 69; B Murphy 68, 70; A Jacklin (GB) 68, 70; G Marsh (Aus) 68, 70. 139: R Floyd 69, 70. 140: R Charles (NZ) 72, 68; G Archer 69, 71.

KUALA LUMPUR: Malaysian Open Championship: Final scores: 282: S Flesch (US) 66, 75, 71, 70; C Jones (Aus) 75, 71, 67, 69 (Flesch won play-off at second extra hole). 283: D Clarke (GB) 70, 72, 69, 72. 284: L Porter (US) 72, 68, 70, 74. 285: E Fryatt (GB) 73, 70, 68, 74. 286: B Wilson (US) 75, 72, 70, 69. 287: K Wentworth (US) 71, 72, 76, 68; T Carolan (Aus) 75, 70, 73, 69; S Kuwabara (Jpn) 70, 74, 73, 70. 288: E Meeks (US) 75, 72, 73, 68; D Chopra (Swe) 71, 73, 74, 70; C Pena (US) 67, 75, 68, 78. Other scores: 289: A Coltart (GB) 76, 72, 71, 70; S Torrance (GB) 70, 78, 71, 72.

ORLANDO: LPGA Health-South tournament: Second-round scores (US unless stated): 137: P Sheehan 66, 71. 138: J Geddes 72, 67; K Albers 72, 67. 140: K Webb 70, 70; H Alfredsson (Swe) 70, 70; C Pierce (GB) 67, 73. 142: L Davies 72, 70.

HOCKEY

DTZ THORPE MIDLAND LEAGUE: Premier division: Belper 3 Bloxwich 5; Bridgnorth 0 Loughborough Stu 5; Hampton in A 1 Khalsa 2; Harborne 3 North Notts 0; John P 1 Nottingham 3.

NASTRO AZZURRO: Premier League: Chichester 5 Beckenham 2; H Wycombe 2 Maidenhead 0; Lewes 4 Anchorians 0; Lions 2 Bournemouth 2; Newbury 1 Gore Ct 1; O Walcountians 0 Ashford 1; Spencer 2 O Kingstonians 1; Wimbledon 1 Winchester 0; Woking 0 Oxford H 8; Wokingham 0 Fareham 1. Kent/Sussex: Bexleyheath 9 Crawley 0; Bognor 2 Blackheath 3; Brighton 4 Bexley Inv 3; Mid Sussex 2 Horsham 2; O Beccehamians 0 Merden R 5; O Williamsonians 1 O Holcombeians 1; Sevenoaks 1 O Bordenians 0; Tulse H 3 Middleton 2; Tunbridge W 8 Belvedere 2. Postponed: Worthing v Herne Bay. Middx/Berks/Bucks and Oxon: Bracknell 1 Staines 2; Oxford 3 ETESSA 0; Eastcote 4 Sunbury 1; Hayes 6 PHC Chiswick 3; HCC 3 OMT 4; Headington 1 Amersham 2; Hendon 0 Ramgarhia 3; Marlow 0 Milton Keynes 3; Mill Hill 3 NPL 2. Hampshire/Surrey: Barnes 4 Cheam 1; Camberley 2 Dulwich 2; Epsom 2 London Univ 2; O Edwardians 0 O Whitgiftians 1; O M Whitgiftians 2 Blandford 1; Oxshott 2 Petersfield 1; Solent HC 2 Andover 2; Purley 1 Oxted 0; Southampton 1 Basingstoke 2; Walton and Weybridge 0 O Cranleighans 1.

NORTHERN LEAGUE: First division: Halifax 0 Formby 1; Neston 1 Ben Rhydding 1; Norton 1 Southport 1; Sheffield B 2 Warrington 1, Timperley 1 Harrogate 3. Second division: Bowdon 2 Oxton 1; Durham Univ 1 Tynemouth 1; Northern 1 Wigan 0; Ramgarhia 2 Disley 2; Springfields 2 Blackburn 2; Swalwell 2 Alderley E 1; York 3 Knutsford 0.

WOMEN'S INDOOR LEAGUE: Premier division: Ipswich 4 Chelmsford 6; Balsam Leicester 2 Slough 3; Hightown 5 Doncaster 2; Sutton Canada L 3 Ipswich 5; Chelmsford 8 Balsam Leicester 8; Slough 7 Hightown 3; Doncaster 2 Sutton Canada L 3. First division: Bracknell 1 Woking 5; Olton 6 Canterbury 2; Wimbledon 5 Liverpool 3; Sheffield 3 Bracknell 3; Woking 1 Olton 3; Canterbury 4 Wimbledon 5; Liverpool 3 Sheffield 7.

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): All-Star game: Eastern Conference 5 Western Conference 4.

BRITISH LEAGUE: Premier division: Basingstoke 6 Fife 5; Newcastle 3 Cardiff 3; Sheffield 10 Milton Keynes 1, Slough 5 Nottingham 10. First division: Bracknell 6 Dumfries 1; Chelmsford 4 Paisley 7; Medway 14 Billingham 6; Peterborough 4 Blackburn 9; Swindon 22 Murrayfield 3; Telford 1 Guildford 7.

LACROSSE

MENS SHEPHERDS FRIENDLY SOCIETY: Premier division: Cheadle 13 Timperley 5; Boardman and Eccles 16 Sheffield Dudley 6; Heaton Mersey 15 Hulmeians 4; Mellor 11 O Waconians 4; Poynton 4 Stockport 16. First division: O Waconians A 7 Sale 5; Moorthorpe 17 Heaton Mersey A 2; Ashton-under-Lyne 18 Sheffield Univ 12; Stopordians 9 Cheadle A 6.

RACKETS

QUEENS CLUB: Hunt British over-40's championship: J Prenn bt W Boone 17-4.

REAL TENNIS

QUEEN'S CLUB: Peel Hunt British over-40's championship: Final: J Prenn bt W Boone 3-15, 15-9, 15-8, 17-14.

SCHOOLS SPORT

FOOTBALL

English Schools Fuji Film Trophy: South East Sussex 7 Bedford 1.

FA Premier League under-19 Trophy: Merseyside 1 Greater Manchester 2.

FA Premier League under-16 Trophy: Kent 3 Middlesex 2.

Pickford Shield: Southampton 4 Poole 0.

Messon Trophy: East Berks 8 Gosport 1 Mid-Oxon 1 Luton 3.

English Wimbledon Trophy: South East Sussex 6 Maidstone 2.

Southern Counties Cup: Redbridge 1 Hackney 3.

Kent Cup: Orpington 0 Bexley 10; Gravesham 3 Dartford 4.

Shaw Cup: Lowestoft 3 Peterborough 5.

Presidents League: Isle of Wight 0 Southampton 1.

Essex Smeathers Trophy under-16: Barking 1 Havering 2.

Alcock Cup under-14: Trafford 6 Chester 3.

Compton Cup: Brent 0 Harrow 6.

English Croydon Cup: Woking 2 West Sussex West 2.

Birmingham Trophy: Newham 1 South East Sussex 2.

Haugh Trophy: Croydon 2 Gravesham 5.

Essex Johnson Cup under-15: Newham 3 Barking 0.

Northern Merit: Blackburn 1 Sefton 2.

Merseyside Cup: Mid Cheshire 1 St Helens 4.

Cheshire Cup: Stockport 3 Wirral 1.

English Goodyear under-16 Trophy: Hylton Red House Durham 0 George Stephenson Northumberland 2, Wollaton School Humberside 6 Calder High School West Yorks 0

Inter-association under-15: Leeds 4 Manchester 3; Trafford 1 Chester 5, Wellingborough 1 South Notts 4.

Inter-association under-14: Leeds 7 Manchester 0.

Welsh Shield under-15: Kirkby Knowsley 4 Wrexham 1.

Welsh Glyncoed Shield under-14: Rhymney Valley 1 Afan Nedd 3; Clwyd Coast 2 Kirkby Knowsley 4.

Inter-town challenge: Leeds 4 Manchester 3; Blackpool 3 Rossendale 1; Bradford 0 Hull 2; Grimsby 2 Huddersfield 5, Trafford 1 Chester 5. Postponed: Oldham v Halton.

Midlands Plate Competition: First round: Erdington and Saltley 1 Aston 4. Postponed: King'S Norton v Halesowen and Stourbridge.

Northern Merit League: Blackburn 1 Sefton 2.

West Midlands League: Solihull 2 Nuneaton 2.

RUGBY UNION

Dartford 14 Coopers 15

Eltham 24 Campion 25

King Edward VII, Lytham 3
King's, Macclesfield 53

King Edward's, Camp Hill 22 Adam's GS 12

O Swinford Hosp 15
King Edward's, Birmingham 30

Rishworth 14 Woodhouse Grove 10

St Edward's, Liverpool 22 Wirral GS 16

St Joseph's 40
Chislehurst and Sidcup GS 0

Stockport GS 25 Rydal 5

Wallington CG 3
City of London Freemen's 31

West Buckland 25 St Brendan's 10

Yarm 15 Silcoates 6.

HOCKEY: Boys: Culford 0 Woodbridge 1. Girls: Chichester HS 12 Judd 10; Cranbrook 2 St Edmund's 1; Dean Close 6 King's, Glos 1, Framlingham 4 Felsted 1; Haileybury 0 Merchant Taylor's 1; KCS Wimbledon 3 Cranleigh 1; Langley Park 0 St George's 4; Perse 3 Kimbolton 1; Reigate 0 Churchers 4; Brentwood 3, King's Canterbury 1.

SHINTY

MARINE HARVEST LEAGUES: Premier division: Fort William 4 Kingussie 2; Inveraray 2 Oban Celtic 2; Oban Camanachd 0 Glasgow Mid Argyll 3. North: First division: Beauly 1 Lovat 3; Inverness 5 Skye 5; Kilmallie 2 Caberfeidh 2; Strathglass 3 Lochaber 1. Second division: Aberdeen Univ 0 Fort William 2; Kingussie 3 Newtonmore 0; Lovat 4 Kilmallie 0; Skye 1 Glenurquart 6. Third division: Caberfeidh 5 Inverness 2; Glengarry 1 Kincraig 3, Lochaber 3 Kinlochshiel 0. South: First division: Glasgow Univ 0 Kyles A 3; Glenorchy 2 Tayforth 0; Strachur 0 Ballachulish 1. Second division: Col Glen 5 Musselburgh 2; Strathclyde Pol 8 St Andrew's Univ 1.

BALLIEMORE CUP: First round: Replay: Taynuilt 7 Edinburgh Univ 0.

SNOOKER

NORBRECK CASTLE HOTEL, Blackpool: Embassy World Championship: Seventh qualifying round: N Walker (Eng) bt P Hunter (Eng) 10-4; N Noppachorn (Thai) bt S Archer (Eng) 10-0; J Read (Eng) bt J Chambers (Eng) 10-2; D McLellan (Scot) bt B L'Orange (Nor) 10-5; P Lines (Eng) bt P Davison (Eng) 10-4; J Woodman (Eng) bt M Wilson (Eng) 10-5; J Michie (Eng) bt Y Merchant (India) 10-7; N Dyson (Eng) bt J Grech (Malta) 10-9; S Judd (Eng) bt A Rosa (Eng) 10-7; M O'Neill (N Ire) bt O King (Eng) 10-6, I McCulloch (Eng) bt R McDonald (Scot) 10-5, P Davies (Wales) bt M Campbell (Scot) 10-8; C Scanlon (Eng) bt S Mazrocis (Eng) 10-8; K Payne (Eng) bt B Pinches (Eng) 10-7; S O'Connor (Ire) bt T Meo (Eng) 10-8, A Cairns (Eng) bt L Richardson (Eng) 10-9.

IRTHLINGBOROUGH: Dr Martens European League: J White (Eng) bt R O'Sullivan (Eng) 5-3; S Hendry (Scot) drew with J Parrott (Eng) 4-4.

SQUASH

ABINGDON, OXFORDSHIRE: Unipart Invitational: Quarter-finals: P Nicol (Scot) bt C Van der Wath (SA) 13-15, 15-13, 15-6, 15-9; P Gregory (Gre) bt T Garner (Eng) 17-14, 6-15, 15-12, 15-10; S Meads (Eng) bt J Nicolle (Eng) 15-10, 15-17, 14-15, 5-15, 15-9; M Cairns (Eng) bt D Evans (Wales) 15-12, 15-10, 15-4. Semi-finals: Nicol bt Gregory 15-13, 15-6, 16-17, 15-6; Cairns bt Meads 15-7, 15-10, 15-9.

TABLE TENNIS

BAYREUTH, Germany: European Nations Cup: Semi-finals: Germany 3 Yugoslavia 0; France 3 Sweden 1. Final: France 3 Germany 1.

TENNIS

MELBOURNE: Australian Open:
MEN: Singles: Third round: Y Kafelnikov (Russia) bt Michael Tebbutt (Aus) 7-5, 5-7, 6-4, 6-2; M Washington (US) bt M Hadad (Col) 6-4, 6-2, 6-3; B Becker (Ger) bt Magnus Larsson (Swe) 7-6, 6-3, 6-3; T Enqvist (Swe) bt H Gumy (Arg) 6-2, 7-6, 3-6, 6-1; M Woodforde (Aus) bt F Clavet (Sp) 4-6, 7-5, 6-2, 6-4; B Steven (NZ) bt J Siemerink (Holl) 6-1, 6-4, 6-7, 6-2; M Philippoussis (Aus) bt P Sampras (US) 6-4, 7-6, 7-6; R Furlan (It) bt G Ivanisevic (Cro) 6-2, 3-6, 6-4, 6-2. Fourth round: M Tillstrom (Swe) bt T Muster (Austria) 7-5, 4-6, 6-3, 6-2; M Chang (US) bt J-P Fleurian (Fr) 6-2, 6-3, 6-4.

Doubles: Second round: C Suk and D Vacek (Cz) bt J Holmes and T Larkham (Aus) 6-4, 7-6; R Leach and S Melville (US) bt J Frana (Arg) and N Pereira (Ven) 6-3, 6-3; J Apell and J Bjorkman (Swe) bt J-L de Jager and G Muller (SA) 6-4, 6-2; M Keil and J Tarango (US) bt C Brandi (It) and M Ondruska (SA) 4-6, 7-6, 6-2; P Galbraith (US) and A Olhovskiy (Russ) bt R Gilbert and G Raoux (Fr) 6-4, 6-4; S Edberg (Swe) and P Korda (Cz) bt J Eagle and A Florent (Aus) 4-6, 6-3, 6-2; S Draper and J Stoltenberg (Aus) bt O Delaitre and F Santoro (Fr) 7-5, 6-3. Third round: G Forget (Fr) and J Hlasek (Switz) bt M Goellner and D Prinosil (Ger) 6-3, 6-7, 6-2; M Damm (Cz) and J Grabb (US) bt J Eltingh and P Haarhuis (Holl) 7-6, 6-2; S Lareau (Can) and A O'Brien (US) bt T Ho (US) and B Steven (NZ) 6-3, 6-3; M Knowles (Bah) and D Nestor (Can) bt Y Kafelnikov (Russ) and W Ferreira (SA) 7-6, 6-3.

WOMEN: Singles: Third round: M Hingis (Switz) bt M Endo (Japan) 6-1, 6-1; A Huber (Ger) bt L Richterova (Cz) 6-2, 6-1; L Davenport (US) bt N Dahlman (Fin) 6-4, 7-5; C Martinez (Sp) bt J Kandarr (Ger) 6-3, 6-0; E Likhovtseva (Russ) bt R Grande (It) 6-3, 6-1; B Schett (Austria) bt H Sukova (Cz) 6-2, 5-7, 8-6; B Schultz-McCarthy (Holl) bt K Boogert (Holl) 4-6, 6-1, 6-4; A Coetzer (SA) bt R Hiraki (Japan) 6-3, 6-1. Fourth round: I Majoli (Cro) bt S Appelmans (Bel) 6-2, 6-2; J Capriati (US) bt M Ondruska (SA) 7-5, 2-6, 4-6, 6-4, 6-2; A Agassi (US) bt J Bjorkman (Swe) 4-6, 6-2, 4-6, 6-1, 6-2; C Rubin (US) bt G Sabatini (Arg) 6-2, 6-4; A Sánchez Vicario (Sp) bt M J Fernandez (US) 6-3, 6-3; M Seles (US) bt N Sawamatsu (Japan) 6-1, 6-3.

Doubles: Second round: C Barclay and J Byrne (Aus) bt N Miyagi (Japan) and S Reece (US) 6-1, 6-0; E Makarova and E Maniokova (Russ) bt E Melicharova and H Vildova (Cz) 6-4, 6-4, K Kschwendt and A Huber (Ger) bt L Nemeckova (Cz) and D Szabova (Slovakia) 6-3, 6-0; L Raymond (US) and G Sabatini (Arg) bt S Appelmans (Bel) and M Oremans (Holl) 6-1, 6-1; C Rubin (US) and A Sánchez Vicario (Sp) bt E de Lone and A Keller (US) 6-2, 6-3; E Callens (Bel) and J Halard-Decugis (Fr) bt V Csurgo (Hun) and N Kijimuta (Japan) 7-5, 6-2. Third round: Rubin and Sánchez Vicario bt Kschwendt and Huber 6-0, 7-5; N Arendt (US) and M Bollegraf (Holl) bt C Martinez (Sp) and P Tarabini (Arg) 6-3, 2-3 ret; Makarova and Maniokova bt Barclay and Byrne (Aus) 6-4, 6-2; Y Basuki (Indo) and C Vis (Holl) bt N Dahlman (Fin) and C Wood (GB) 6-7, 6-4, 6-2.

MIXED DOUBLES: First round: G van Emburgh (US) and I Spirlea (Rom) bt J Sanchez (Sp) and M Paz (Arg) 6-3, 7-6; D Macpherson and R McQuillan (Aus) bt P Nyborg and M Strandlund (Swe) 6-3, 4-6, 6-4; L Jensen and N Arendt (US) bt K Kinnear (US) and N Miyagi (Japan) 6-4, 6-3. T Ho and K Po (US) bt S Melville (US) and C Vis (Holl) 7-5, 7-6; A O'Brien and M J Fernandez (US) bt J Tarango and A Frazier (US) 6-3, 3-6, 6-3, M Tebbutt (Aus) and J Halard-Decugis (Fr) bt A Olhovskiy (Russ) and K Boogert (Holl) 6-4, 6-3, M Woodforde (Aus) and L Neiland (Lat) bt M Jensen (US) and B Schultz-McCarthy (Holl) 6-4, 3-6, 6-2. Second round: J-L de Jager (SA) and J Hetherington (Can) bt C Suk (Cz) and G Fernandez (US) 6-4, 6-2; M Lucena and M McGrath (US) bt D Nestor and R Simpson (Can) 6-3, 4-6, 6-2; E Ferreira (SA) and Helena Sukova (Cz) bt P Norval (SA) and E Callens (Bel) 4-6, 7-5, 6-4.

RUGBY UNION

Five nations championship

France 15 England 12

France: Pens: Lacroix 3. Dropped goals: Castaignede, Lacroix. England: Pens: Grayson 2. Dropped goals: Grayson 2.

(at Parc des Princes)

Ireland 10 Scotland 16

Ireland: Try: Clohessy. Con: Elwood. Pen: Elwood. Scotland: Tries: M Dods, McKenzie. Pen: M Dods. Dropped goal: Townsend.

(at Lansdowne Road)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Scotland	1	1	0	0	16	10	2
France	1	1	0	0	15	12	2
England	1	0	0	1	12	15	0
Ireland	1	0	0	1	10	16	0
Wales	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

CIS county championship
South

Gloucs 19 Devon 0

Gloucestershire: Tries: Clark, Knox. Pens: Osborn 2. Dropped goal: Mills.

(at Lydney)

Herts 37 Oxfordshire 13

Hertfordshire: Tries: Chapman 2, McPherson, Norton, Phillips, Ruding. Cons: Ruding 2. Pen: Ruding. Oxfordshire: Try: Mawdesley. Con: Perkins. Pens: Perkins 2.

(at Hitchin)

CIS under-21 county championship
South west final

Gloucestershire 17 Berkshire 6

(at Cinderford)

PILKINGTON SHIELD: Fifth round: Midland division: Bedford Swifts 8 Wellingborough O G 13.

Swalec Cup
Fifth Round

Abergavenny 8 Cardiff Inst 23

Abergavenny: Try: Anstey. Pen: Wylie. Cardiff Inst: Tries: Edwards, Stiff 2. Con: Savastano. Pen: Savastano. Dropped goal: Vobe.

Abertillery 3 Bridgend 32

Abertillery: Pen: Connors. Bridgend: Tries: Forster, N Thomas, penalty try, Wilkins. Cons: M Lewis 3. Pens: M Lewis 2.

Builth Wells 7 Rumney 25

Builth Wells: Try: D Jones. Con: P Parry. Rumney: Tries: Greedy, Mason, Norman. Cons: Mason 2. Pens: Mason 2.

Caerphilly 32 Rhymney 5

Caerphilly: Tries: Bidgood, Bray, Hammond, Starr, Waller. Cons: Bolderson 2. Pen: Bolderson. Rhymney: Try: Thomas

Dunvant 16 Glamorgan W 8

Dunvant: Try: W Lloyd. Con: Thomas. Pens: Thomas 3. Glamorgan Wanderers: Try: Patterson. Pen: Bellamy.

Merthyr 17 Llanelli 30

Merthyr: Tries: penalty try, Titley. Cons: Williams 2. Pen: Williams. Llanelli: Tries: Boobyer, N Davies, Wyatt, 2 penalty try. Cons: Pearce 2. Pens: Pearce 2.

Neath 78 Heol-Y-Cyw 8

Neath: Tries: Bridges, Gerrard, Glyn Llewellyn, Morgan, P Williams 2, S Williams, Wintle 2, Woodland 3. Cons: Beukes 8. Heol-Y-Cyw: Try: Burke. Pen: James.

Newbridge 24 Cross Keys 8

Newbridge: Tries: Hill, Jones, Reed, Smith. Cons: Strange 2. Cross Keys: Try: Griffin. Pen: Bebb.

Newport 49 Ystradgynlais 5

Newport: Tries: Arentsen, D Hughes, Hewlett, Smith, Snow 2. Cons: G Rees 4, Hewlett. Pens: G Rees 2. Dropped goal: G Rees. Ystradgynlais: Try: Griffiths.

Penarth 6 Cardiff 62

Penarth: Pens: Miller 2. Cardiff: Tries: A Davies, Bevan, Ford 2, Hall 2, Hill 3, Rayer, Stewart. Cons: A Davies, J Davies. Pen: A Davies.

Penygraig 9 Llandovery 10

Penygraig: Pen: Dunn. Dropped goals: Dunn 2. Llandovery: Try: Lloyd-Jones. Con: Lloyd-Jones. Pen: Lloyd-Jones.

Pontypridd 41 Treorchy 5

Pontypridd: Tries: D McIntosh, Manley, S Lewis 2. Cons: L Jarvis 3. Pens: L Jarvis 5. Treorchy: Try: Hammans.

S Wales Police 26 Abercynon 16

South Wales Police: Tries: Bundock 2, Hamburrow. Con: Price. Pens: Price 2. Dropped goal: Price. Abercynon: Try: Savage. Con: Savage. Pens: Savage 3.

Swansea 27 Tonmawr 8

Swansea: Tries: A Williams, Boobyer, Evans, Thomas. Cons: A Williams 2. Pen: A Williams. Tonmawr: Try: Fisher. Pen: Fisher.

Whitland 19 Blackwood 17

Whitland: Try: D Setaro. Con: J Howells. Pens: J Howells 4. Blackwood: Try: Williams. Pens: Grimstead 4.

(Aet)

Ynysddu 15 Maesteg 36

Ynysddu: Tries: Jones, Morris, Powell. Maesteg: Tries: penalty try, Flay, L Jones, M Morgan, Pearce. Cons: Pearce 4. Pen: Pearce

Club matches

Barking	12	Woodford	0
Birmingham	23	Cheltenham	15
Broughton Park	33	Newton-le-Willows	5
Fylde	10	Orrell	22
Harrogate	34	Leeds	25
High Wycombe	16	Bracknell	29
Liverpool St H	41	Ashton-u-Lyne	10
London Welsh	10	London Scottish	22
Plymouth	22	Tiverton	15
Richmond	27	Saracens	34
Rotherham	50	Hull Ionians	12
Sale	50	Newcastle	12
Selby	3	Otley	12
Stoke	41	Derby	0
Wharfedale	10	Morley	22
Llanharan	28	Tondu	23
Royal High	7	Corstorphine	36
Ebbw Vale	52	Blaina	10
Sandal	18	Huddersfield	9
Waterloo	34	Manchester	13
Waterloo	28	Gloucester	42
Wakefield	28	Coventry	33

CANCELLED: Aberavon v Carmarthen Quins; Blackheath v Harlequins; Redruth v Broheam.

FRIDAY'S LATE RESULTS: A internationals: France 15 England 25 (at Jean Bouin stadium, Paris); Ireland 26 Scotland 19 (at Donnybrook). International match: French Universities 33 English Universities 14 (at Jean Bouin stadium, Paris). Club matches: Askeans 24 Cambridge Univ 38, Bath 21 Moseley 11; Bristol 41 Exeter 14; Clifton 41 Stroud 10; Glasgow Southern 31 Dundee HSFP 20; Greenock Wanderers 8 Glasgow Academicals 43, Hillhead-Jordan 21 Grangemouth 10; Kelso 35 Boroughmuir 7, Langholm 3 Jed-Forest 29; Leicester 38 Bedford 13 (abandoned 70min, floodlight failure), Metropolitan Police 17 Esher 3; Northampton 18 Wasps 24; Preston Lodge 52 Stewarts Melville FP 31; Rosslyn Park 16 London Irish 17

RUGBY LEAGUE

Stones Championship

Bradford 14 Workington 4

Bradford: Tries: Cook, Donohue. Goals: Cook 3. Workington: Try: Wallace. Att: 3,036.

Halifax 32 St Helens 24

Halifax: Tries: Baldwin, Dean, Highton, Moana, Umaga 2. Goals: Umaga 4. St Helens: Tries: Haigh 2, K Cunningham, Waring. Goals: Prescott 4. Att: 4,558.

London Broncos 44 Castleford 50

London Broncos: Tries: Dynevor, Hauff, McRae 3, Rea, Roskilen, Shaw. Goals: Dynevor 6. Castleford: Tries: Coventry, Furness 2, Sampson, Schick 2, Smales, Sykes, T Smith. Goals: Goddard 7. Att: 1,465.

Oldham 28 Sheffield 16

Oldham: Tries: Abram, Atcheson 2, Irwin, Leuila. Goals: Maloney 3. Sheffield: Tries: Garcia, I Hughes, Senior. Goals: Lawford 2. Att: 3,391

Wigan 34 Leeds 20

Wigan: Tries: Hall, Johnson, Offiah, Paul 2. Goals: Paul 7. Leeds: Tries: Innes 3, Tait. Goals: A Gibbons, Holroyd. Att: 12,918.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Wigan	20	18	0	2	810	316	36
Leeds	20	14	0	6	552	405	28
Halifax	20	12	1	7	456	463	25
St Helens	20	12	0	8	732	508	24
Sheffield	20	10	0	10	482	528	20
Castleford	20	9	1	10	448	566	19
Bradford	20	8	0	12	418	476	16
Oldham	20	8	0	12	382	535	16
Warrington	20	7	0	13	443	514	14
London Bron	20	7	0	13	468	585	14
Workington	20	4	0	16	317	610	8

First division

Batley 12 Huddersfield 20

Batley: Tries: Cass, S Walker. Goals: Parkinson 2. Huddersfield: Tries: Hanger, Kebbie 2, Milner. Goals: Pearce 2. Att: 1,320.

Featherstone 30 Keighley 14

Featherstone: Tries: Fox, Naidole, Pearson, Rodger, Wilson. Goals: Pearson 5. Keighley: Tries: Cantillon, Foster. Goals: Irving 3. Att: 2,471

Salford 46 Dewsbury 18

Salford: Tries: Blakeley, Davys, Martin, McAvoy 2, Naylor, Rogers, Savelio. Goals: Blakeley 7. Dewsbury: Tries: Bramald, Eaton, Hagh. Goals: Eaton 3. Att: 3,182

Whitehaven 22 Hull 14

Whitehaven: Tries: Edwards, Palmer, Quirk, Seeds, Williams. Goal: Maguire. Hull: Tries: Gray, Kitching. Goals: McNamara 3. Att: 1,207

Widnes 22 Rochdale 6

Widnes: Tries: Harris, John Devereux 2, McCurrie. Goals: D Myler 3. Rochdale: Try: Greenwood. Goal: Booth. Att: 2,300.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Salford	20	17	1	2	681	278	35
Keighley	20	13	2	5	491	255	28
Widnes	20	13	1	6	475	334	27
Hull	20	11	0	9	571	420	22
Featherstone	20	11	0	9	420	431	22
Whitehaven	20	10	2	8	345	435	22
Wakefield	20	10	0	10	346	422	20
Rochdale	20	8	1	11	365	483	17
Huddersfield	20	6	0	14	395	485	12
Batley	20	5	1	14	302	492	11
Dewsbury	20	2	0	18	261	597	4

Second division

Bramley 6 Leigh 38

Bramley: Try: Blankley. Goal: Creasser. Leigh: Tries: Burgess, Cheetham, Ingram 2, Jason O'Loughlin, Stazicker 2. Goals: Wilkinson 5. Att: 850.

Doncaster 16 Barrow 17

Doncaster: Tries: Chappell, Connell, Hewitt. Goals: Chappell 2. Barrow: Tries: Atkinson, Spencely. Goals: Atkinson 4. Dropped goal: Atkinson. Att: 730

Hull K R 58 Chorley 6

Hull K R: Tries: Atkins 2, D'Arcy, G Brown 2, Plange 5. Goals: M Fletcher 9. Chorley: Try: Clayton. Goal: Smith. Att: 1,807.

Hunslet 82 Highfield 0

Hunslet: Tries: Baker, Ballantyne, Brook 2, Farrell, Limb, Sharp, Simon Wilson 2, Viller 2, Walker 2, White 2. Goals: Simon Wilson 11. Att: 624.

Swinton 24 Carlisle 22

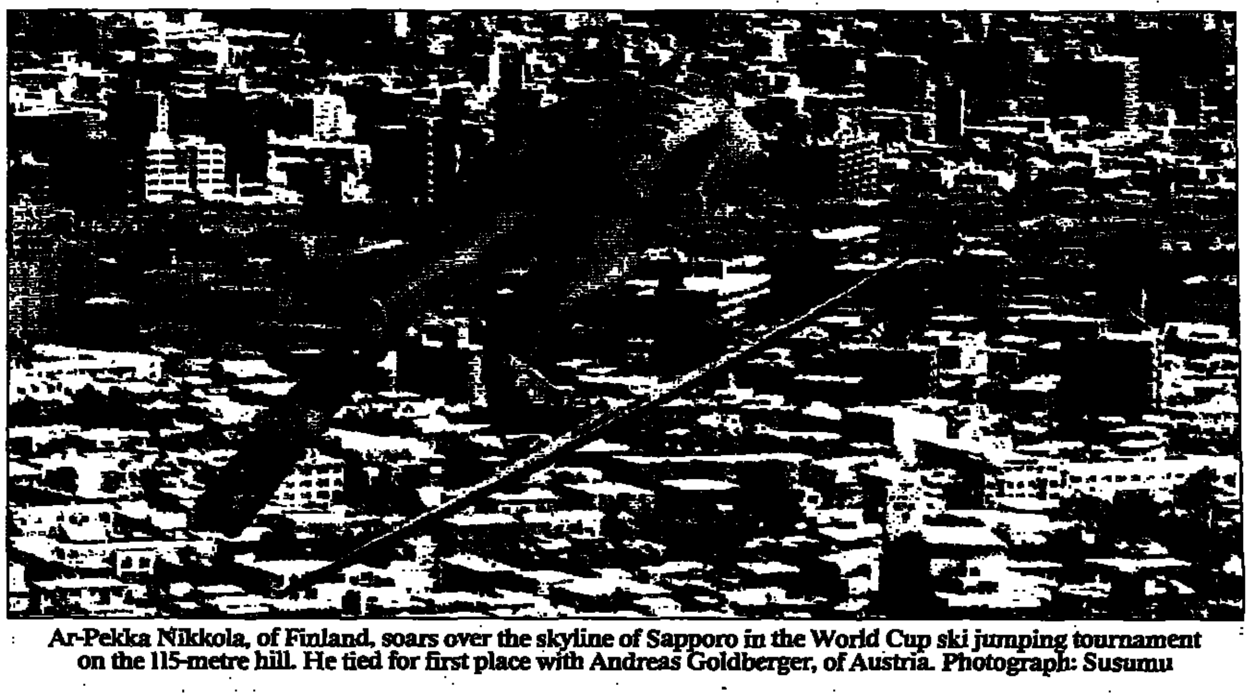
Swinton: Tries: Bolton, Edwards, Evans, Welsby. Goals: Evans 4. Carlisle: Tries: Henare, Mark Lynch, Russell 2. Goals: Richardson 3. Att: 759.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Hull K R	20	18	0	2	744	231	36
Leigh	20	16	0	4	592	335	32
Hunslet	20	14	0	6	514	315	28
Swinton	20	13	0	7	521	331	26
Carlisle	20	12	0	8	600	309	24
York	20	10	1	9	442	415	21
Bramley	20	9	1	10	400	434	19
Barrow	20	6	0	14	342	488	12
Chorley	20	5	1	14	324	608	11
Doncaster	20	5	0	15	348	646	10
Highfield	20	0	1	19	249	984	1

National Conference League
Premier division

Dudley Hill	19	Heworth	20
Hemel Hempst'd	22	Wigan St Pat	24
Leigh Miners W	68	Egremont	6
Millom	10	West Hull	12

FRIDAY'S LATE RESULT: Stones Championship: Sheffield 24 Wigan 36



Ar-Pekka Nikkola, of Finland, soars over the skyline of Sapporo in the World Cup ski jumping tournament on the 115-metre hill. He tied for first place with Andreas Goldberger, of Austria. Photograph: Susumu

BIATHLON

OSRBLIE, Slovakia: World Cup: Men (10km): 1, V Dratchev (Russ) 24min 25.9sec; 2, L Gredler (Austria) 24:34.0; 3, R Cattarinussi (It) 24:57.3; 4, P Rostovtsev (Russ) 25:23.9; equal 5, F Andresen (Nor) and O E Bjorndalen (Nor) 25:24.4. World Cup standings: 1, Dratchev 179pts; 2, S Fischer (Ger) 107; equal 3, L Gredler (Austria) and Bjorndalen 104, 5, P A Carrara (It) 103. Relay (10km): 1, Austria (W Perner, M Pfurtscheller, R Neuner, L Gredler) 25:55.3; 2, Norway 26:01.2; 3, Finland 26:12.7; 4, Russia 26:27.4; 5, France 26:56.8. Women (7.5km): 1, E Claret (Fr) 21:47.1; 2, F Baverel (Fr) 21.50.8; 3, A Grasic (Slovenia) 21:57.6; 4, A Skjeland (Nor) 21:58.8; 5, I Shechidi (Kaz) 22:13.2; 6, M Bedard (Can) 22:15.0. World Cup standings: Equal 1, U Disl (Ger) 162 and Claret 162; 3, Grasic 139; 4, A Briand (Fr) 133; 5, Baverel 129. Relay (7.5km): 1, Norway (L G Skjelbreid, H F Mikkelsplass, A Skjeland, A E Skjelbreid) 22:24.8; 2, France 22:26.7; 3, Finland 23:51.3; 4, Czech Republic 24:20.6; 5, Slovakia 25:01.2; 6, Japan 25:03.5.

BOBSLEIGH

CORTINA D'AMPEZZO, Italy: World Cup: Four-man: 1, Germany I (W Hoppe, C Embach, U Hielscher, S Peter) (53.54sec, 53.47) 1min 47.01sec; 2, Germany II (53.64, 53.65) 1:47.29; 3, United States I (53.75, 53.91) 1:47.66; equal 4, Canada I (53.71, 53.96) and Italy I (53.82, 53.85) 1:47.67; 6, Austria I (53.93, 53.76) 1:47.69. 10, Great Britain I (M Tout, L Paul, D Ward, C Runbold) (54.00, 53.93) 1:47.93. World Cup standings: 1, Germany I 174; 2, Germany II 170; 3, Austria I 138; 4, Canada I 135; 5, Canada II 134; 6, Italy I 130.

CRESTA RUN

ST MORITZ: Knapp Cup: 1, Badrutt (Switz) 155.85sec; 2, C Bertschinger (Switz) 156.80; 3, M Melcher (Switz) 156.95. Coppa d'Italia: 1, J Lucas (GB) 154.05; 2, T Hill (GB) 154.80; 3, U Schwarzenbach (Switz) 155.46.

FREESTYLE SKIING

BRECKENRIDGE, Colorado: World Cup: Men: Moguls: 1, S Rochon (Can) 27.30pts; 2, J Moseley (US) 26.65; 3, L Niol (Fr) 26.60; 4, N Cleaver (Aus) 26.39; 5, A Wilson (US) 25.99; 6, L Lassila (Fin) 25.84. World Cup standings: 1, F Ougier (Fr) 360pts; 2, Moseley 356; 3, Rochon 324; 4, J Moran (US) 304; 5, Niol 296; 6, T Benson (US) 280. Aerials: 1, V Vorobiov (Bela) 224.99; 2, C Rijavec (Austria) 223.78; 3, N Fontaine (Can) 218.13; 4, K Griffin (US) 212.25; 5, D Belhumeur (Can) 210.81; 6, E Bergoust (US) 210.61. World Cup standings: 1, L Langlois (Can) 356; 2, Rijavec 348; 3, K Feddersen (US) 348; 4, Belhumeur 340; 5, Fontaine 326; 6, S Foucras (Fr) 316. Women: Moguls: 1, D Weinbrecht (US) 24.54; 2, C Gilg (Fr) 24.29; 3, K Traa (Nor) 23.96; 4, T Mittermayer (Ger) 23.33; 5, M Karhu (Fin) 23.04; 6, L McIntyre (US) 22.86. World Cup standings: 1, Weinbrecht 392; 2, Gilg 388; 3, Mittermayer 384; 4, A Battelle (US) 340; 5, Karhu 316; 6, A Cattelin (Fr) 284. Aerials: 1, N Stone (US) 174.65; 2, V Brenner (Can) 173.01; 3, C Brand (Switz) 154.54; 4, C Oliver (Can) 151.30; 5, S Hudritsch (Austria) 149.21; 6, N Orekhova (Russ) 147.98. World Cup standings: 1, Brenner 396; 2, Stone 384; 3, Brand 376; 4, Olivier 352; 5, Marshall 344; 6, S Blumer (US) 336.

ICE SKATING

SOFIA: Men's European figure skating Championships: Qualifiers: Group A: 1, A Vlachtchenko (Ger) 1.0pts; 2, M Tyllesen (Denmark) 2.0; 3, I Dinev (Bul) 3.0; 4, E Pluta (Ukr) 4.0; 5, P Schmit (Lux) 5.0; 6, A Mourashko (Bela) 6.0; 7, F Garattoni (It) 7.0; 8, M Hernits (Est) 8.0; 9, R Kazimir (Slova) 9.0; 10, L Tasfas (Rom) 10.0; 11, J Suchy (Cz) 11.0. Group B: 1, I Pashkevich (Russ) 1.0; 2, A Yagudin (Russ) 2.0; 3, N Wilson (GB) 3.0; 4, S Vidral (Hun) 4.0; 5, P Meier (Switz) 5.0; 6, M Leminen (Fin) 6.0; 7, F Tuma (Aus) 7.0; 8, R Grzegorczyk (Pol) 8.0; 9, J Padro (Sp) 9.0; 10, J Celvan (Slove) 10.0; 11, M Dean (Holl) 11.0; 12, V Murvanidze (Georgia) 12.0.

LUGE

KOENIGSSEE, Germany: World Cup: Men: Singles: 1, A Zoeggeler (It) (48.004sec, 48.195) 1min 36.199sec; 2, D Kennedy (US) (48.097, 48.227) 1:36.324; 3, G Hackl (Ger) (48.137, 48.206) 1:36.343; 4, M Prock (Austria) (48.086, 48.412) 1:36.498; 5, A Bau (Ger) (48.175, 48.395) 1:36.570; 6, M Schmidt (Austria) (48.153, 48.506) 1:36.659. World Cup standings: 1, Prock 130pts; 2, Zoeggeler 109; 3, Hackl 107; 4, G Gleirscher (Austria) 103; 5, W Suckow (US) 99; 6, Schmidt 88. Doubles: 1, S Krausse and J Behrendt (Ger) (44.880, 45.089) 1:29.969; 2, T Rudolph and Y Mankel (Ger) (45.065, 45.045) 1:30.110; 3, C Thorpe and G Sheer (US) (45.199, 44.978) 1:30.177; 4, C Niocum and M McClain (US) (45.112, 45.102) 1:30.214; 5, S Skel and S Woeller (Ger) (45.278, 45.192) 1:30.470; 6, G Plankensteiner and O Haselrieder (It) (45.206, 45.478) 1:30.494. World Cup standings: 1, Krausse and Behrendt 137; 2, Mankel, Rudolph 129; 3, Thorpe and Sheer 116; 4, Plankensteiner and Haselrieder 108; 5, T Schiegl and M Schiegl (Austria) 103; 6, Skel and Woeller 100. Women: Singles: 1, G Weissensteiner (It) (44.960; 45.050) 1:30.101; 2, J Bode (Ger) (45.019, 45.116) 1:30.135; 3, A Tagwerker (Austria) (45.041, 45.179) 1:30.220; 4, G Kohlisch (Ger) (45.116, 45.151) 1:30.267; 5, C Myler (US) (45.249, 45.029) 1:30.278; 6, A Neuner (Austria) (45.208, 45.145) 1:30.353. World Cup standings: 1, Bode 131; 2, Kohlisch 116; 3, Weissensteiner 112; 4, S Otto (Ger) 109; 5, Neuner 107; 6, Tagwerker 104.

NORDIC SKIING

LIBEREC, Czech Republic: World Cup: Combined: 1, S Guillaume (Fr) 38min 13.9sec; 2, K Ogiwara (Japan), at 4.4sec; 3, K T Apeland (Nor) 26.7; 4, F B Lundberg (Nor) 26.9; 5, T Sarparanta (Fin) 33.3; 6, H Skard (Nor) 37.1. World Cup standings: 1, Apeland 621pts; 2, Ogiwara 615; 3, J Mantila (Fin) 560; 4, Lundberg 487; 5, B E Vik (Nor) 392; 6, T Ogiwara (Japan) 459.

SKIING

VEYSONNAZ, Switzerland: World Cup: Men: Downhill: 1, B Kernen (Switz) 2min 2.69sec; equal 2, P Ortlieb (Austria) and L Alphand (Fr) 2:03.49; 4, W Franz (Austria) 2:03.56; 5, D Mahrer (Switz) 2:03.62; 6, W Perathoner (It) 2:03.76. 48, G Bell (GB) 2:08.25. Slalom: 1, S Amiez (Fr) 1min 38.79sec; 2, R Mlekuz (Slovenia) 1:39.16; 3, T Sykora (Austria) 1:39.48; 4, Y Dimer (Fr) 1:39.61; 5, A Miklavc (Slovenia) 1:39.71; 6, M Girardelli (Lux) 1:39.80. Combined: 1, Girardelli (2min 4.64sec, 1:39.80) 3min 44.44sec; 2, Mader (2:04.03, 1:41.38) 3:45.41; 3, K A Aamodt (Nor) (2:05.98, 1:42.32) 3:48.30; 4, A Fatalli (It) (2:04.34, 1:45.44) 3:49.78; 5, F Nyberg (Swe) (2:05.40, 1:44.65) 3:50.05; 6, P Accola (Switz) (2:04.64, 1:46.42) 3:51.06. World Cup standings: Downhill: 1, Alphand 432pts; 2, Ortlieb 319; 3, Mader (Austria) 282; 4, Kernen 275; 5, X Gigandet (Switz) 254; 6, L Kjus (Nor) 225; 56, Bell 6. Slalom: 1, A Tomba (It) 440; 2, Amiez 435; 3, Jure Kosir (Slovenia) 285; 4, Sykora 266; 5, M Reiter (Austria) 239. Overall: 1, L Kjus (Nor) 958; 2, M von Gruenigen (Switz) 726; 3, G Mader (Austria) 703; 4, Tomba 616; 5, H Kneus (Austria) 566; 6, Alphand 466. 132, Bell 6.

CORTINA D'AMPEZZO, Italy: World Cup: Women: Downhill: 1, I Kostner (It) 1min 28.93sec; 2, P Street (US) 1:29.12; 3, R Goetschl (Austria) 1:29.66; 4, P Wiberg (Swe) 1:29.72; 5, B Merlin (It) 1:29.75; 6, B Perez (It) 1:30.03. Giant slalom: 1, A Wachter (Austria) (1min 18.62sec, 1:19.12) 2min 37.74sec; 2, E Hansson (Swe) (1.19.04, 1:19.09) 2:38.13; 3, K Seizinger (Ger) (1:17.90, 1:20.24) 2:38.14; 4, D Compagnoni (It) (1:19.58, 1:19.31) 2:38.89; 5, S Nef (Switz) (1:18.52, 1:20.90) 2:39.42; 6, Kostner (1:19.45, 1:20.79) 2:40.24. World Cup standings: Downhill: 1, Street 380pts; 2, Kostner 246; 3, A Meissnitzer (Austria) 235; 4, Seizinger 225; 5, R Goetschl (Austria) 184; 6, M Dorfmeister (Austria) 183. Giant slalom: 1, M Ertl (Ger) 380; 2, Wachter 290; 3, Seizinger 280; 4, Nef 226; 5, Hansson 194; 6, S Panzanini (It) 183. Overall: 1, Wachter 835; 2, Ertl 784; 3, Seizinger 782; 4, Meissnitzer 632; 5, E Eder (Austria) 520; 6, Street 506

SKI JUMPING

SAPPORO, Japan: World Cup: 90m hill: 1, J Weissflog (Ger) (86m, 87.5) 218pts; 2, E Halvorsen (Nor) (84, 87.5) 216; 3, R Schwarzeberger (Austria) (85, 86) 215; 4, A-P Nikkola (Fin) (83, 88) 214; 5, R Gebstedt (Ger) (81, 89) 210.5; 6, K Suda (Japan) (85.5, 83) 209. 115m hill: Equal 1, Nikkola (119, 105.5) 224.1 and A Goldberger (Austria) (117.5, 107) 224.1; 3, H Saitoh (Japan) (102.5, 118) 214.4; 4, Weissflog 205.5 (99, 116); 5, N Yasuzaki (Japan) (100.5, 114) 204.6; 6, R Ljoekelsoy (Nor) (101.5, 112.5) 200.7. World Cup standings: 1, Nikkola 954pts; 2, Goldberger 714; 3, M Laitinen (Fin) 678; 4, Weissflog 624; 5, J Ahonen (Fin) 571.

SPEED SKATING

HEERENVEEN, Holland: European championships: Men: 500m: 1, I Postma (Holl) 37.12sec; 2, D Carta (It) 37.43; 3, R Sighel (It) 37.87; 4, C Breuer (Ger) 37.88; 5, P Adeberg (Ger) 37.93. 1,500m: 1, Postma 1min 53.58sec; 2, R Ritsma (Holl) 1.53.88; 3, M Hersman (Holl) 1:53.93; 4, C Kuentz (Fr) 1:55.71; 5, A Anufrienko (Russ) 1:55.76. 5,000m: 1, B Veldkamp (Bel) 6:50.77; 2, R Ritsma (Holl) 6:51.06; 3, F Dittrich (Ger) 6:56.31; 4, M Hersman (Holl) 6:58.17; 5, I Postma (Holl) 6:58.58. 10,000m: 1, Veldkamp 14:11.69; 2, Ritsma 14:14.75; 3, Dittrich 14:21.36; 4, Postma 14:26.78; 5, Hersman 14:32.98; 6, Sighel 14:39.71. Standings: 1, Ritsma 159.756pts; 2, Postma 160.175; 3, Hersman 161.392; 4, Veldkamp 162.061; 5, Sighel 162.761; 6, Dittrich 163.068. Women: 500m: 1, A Thomas (Holl) 41.11sec; 2, G Niemann (Ger) 41.54; 3, M Descalu (Rom) 41.75; 4, C Pechstein (Ger) 41.78; 5, E Hunyady (Austria) 41.80. 1,500m: 1, Thomas 2min 3.89sec; 2, Niemann 2:04.04; 3, S Bazanova (Russ) 2:06.17; 4, Pechstein (Ger) 2:07.03; 5, Hunyady 2:07.09. 3,000m: 1, Niemann 4:17.93; 2, Pechstein 4:22.72; 3, Thomas 4:23.64; 4, T de Jong (Holl) 4.24.28; 5, Bazanova (Russ) 4:24.53. 5,000m: 1, Niemann 7:23.58; 2, Pechstein 7:28.54; 3, De Jong 7:31.04; 4, E Belci (It) 7:34.64; 5, H Warnicke (Ger) 7:35.56; 6, C Zijlstra (Holl) 7:37.00. Standings: 1, Niemann 170.232; 2, Thomas 172.133; 3, Pechstein 172.763; 4, De Jong 173.380; 5, Bazanova 174.315; 6, Hunyady 175.335.

Haydock Park
Going: soft

12.30 (2m 7f 110yd hdle) 1, Better Times Ahead (A Dobbin, 4-1); 2, Putty Road (15-8 fav); 3, Strawberry Angel (12-1). 11 ran. 1½l, 13l. G Richards. Tote: £5.10; £1.90, £1.30, £2.30. DF: £5.80. Trio: £28.70. CSF: £12.21.

1.00 (2m hdle) 1, Mysilv (J Osborne, 10-11 fav); 2, Atours (11-4); 3, Pridwell (4-1). 6 ran. 1½l, 2½l. C Egerton. Tote: £1.90; £1.20, £1.90. DF: £2.20. CSF: £3.73.

1.30 (3m ch) 1, Scotton Banks (R Garritty, 15-8 fav); 2, Smith's Band (3-1); 3, Garrison Savannah (16-1). 6 ran. ½l, 13l. M H Easterby. Tote: £2.80; £1.80, £1.90. DF: £4.30. CSF: £7.79.

2.00 (2m 4f ch) 1, Nahthen Lad (W Marston, 10-11 fav); 2, Billygoat Gruff (13-8); 3, Chief Raider (12-1). 6 ran. 2½l, 20l. Mrs J Pitman. Tote: £2.00; £1.10, £1.60. DF: £2.00. CSF: £2.86.

2.30 (2m 4f ch) 1, Three Philosophers (C Llewellyn, Evens fav); 2, Potter's Bay (5-2); 3, Merry Noelle (40-1). 10 ran. 1¼l, 15l. T Forster. Tote: £2.00; £1.10, £1.30, £7.70. DF: £2.40. Trio: £167.90. CSF: £4.43.

3.00 (2m ch) 1, Clay County (A Maguire, 5-4); 2, Uncle Ernie (11-10 fav); 3, Snitton Lane (11-2). 3 ran. NR: Circulation, Sound Reveille. 3½l, dist. M Hammond. Tote: £2.20. DF: £1.40. CSF: £2.77.

3.30 (2m flat) 1, Agistment (M Dwyer, 11-1); 2, Forest Ivory (11-2); 3, Shallagambie (9-4 fav). 20 ran. 2l, 8l. J Fitzgerald. Tote: £17.60; £4.60, £2.40, £1.60. DF: £48.60. Trio: £68.50. CSF: £80.96.

Placepot: £8.80. Quadpot: £7.00.

Kempton Park

1.10 1, Jet Rules (4-1; Thunderer's nap); 2, Crown Equery (9-1); 3, Purple Splash (7-1). Flight Lieutenant 7-2 fav. 13 ran.

1.40 1, Fellow Countryman (10-1); 2, River Lossie (9-2); 3, Challenger Du Luc (5-6 fav). 9 ran.

2.10 1, Angelo's Double (7-1); 2, Native Field (6-1); 3, Forest Feather (20-1). Sesame Seed 100-30 fav (pu). 15 ran.

2.40 1, Warm Spell (20-1); 2, Frickley (8-1); 3, Thinking Twice (16-1). Thornton Gate 5-2 fav. 12 ran. NR: Royal Derbi.

3.10 1, Master Boston (3-1 fav); 2, Scole (20-1); 3, Newlands-General (9-2). 7 ran. NR: File Concord.

3.40 1, Trying Again (5-2 jt-fav); 2, Inchcailloch (4-1); 3, Sublime Fellow (5-2 jt-fav). 6 ran.

4.10 1, Colonel Blazer (4-1 jt-fav); 2, Lotschberg Express (33-1); 3, The Land Agent (33-1). Mytink 4-1 jt-fav. 21 ran. NR: Splendid Thyne.

Jackpot: not won (pool of £45,763.51 carried forward to Southwell today).

Catterick Bridge

12.45 1, Radical Choice (8-1); 2, Ron On The Run (8-1); 3, Abbey Lamp (33-1). Peep O Day 11-8 fav. 23 ran.

1.15 1, Lord Dorcet (5-4 fav); 2, Morning In May (11-2); 3, Ingletonian (3-1). 14 ran.

1.45 1, King Athelstan (16-1); 2, Stash The Cash (9-2); 3, Tanseeq (12-1); 4, Jemima Puddleduck (8-1). Sharkashka 4-1 fav. 19 ran. NR: Chummy's Saga, I'm A Dreamer, Royal Crimson.

2.15 1, Mr Fudge (6-1); 2, Chadwick's Ginger (4-1 fav); 3, Flapjack Lad (6-1). 12 ran.

2.45 1, Centaur Express (4-1); 2, Dolly Prices (50-1); 3, In A Moment (9-2); 4, Antarcticism (10-1). On A Pedestal 7-2 fav. 16 ran.

3.15 1, Peruvian Gale (2-1); 2, Change The Reign (15-8 fav); 3, Heavenly Citizen (25-1). 7 ran. NR: Wise Advice.

3.45 1, Gods Squad (66-1); 2, Bold Action (5-1); 3, Pentlands Flyer (7-4 fav). 21 ran.

Lingfield Park

1.25 1, Royal Circus (9-1); 2, Gold Blade (9-1); 3, Don't Drop Bombs (4-1). Father Dan 3-1 fav. 13 ran. NR: Alpine Storm.

1.55 1, Milos (8-1); 2, Ultra Beet (9-1); 3, Respectable Jones (20-1). Little Ibnr 11-4 fav. 13 ran. NR: Tyrian Purple.

2.25 1, Princely Sound (5-2 fav); 2, Maple Burl (4-1); 3, Rowlandsons Stud (11-2). 11 ran.

2.55 1, Distinct Beauty (9-4, Newmarket Correspondent's nap); 2, Bath Knight (20-1); 3, Billaddie (11-10 fav). 7 ran. NR: Righteous Gent.

3.25 1, Queen Of All Birds (7-2); 2, Master Beveled (3-1 jt-fav); 3t, Bentico (5-1), 3t, Lebuddi (3-1 jt-fav). 9 ran.

4.00 1, Raktis (3-1 fav); 2, Hawaii Storm (16-1); 3, Fort Knox (6-1); 4, Tuigamala (14-1). 16 ran.

THE TIMES

RACING

Commentary

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FOOTBALL

Reports and scores from the FA Carling Premiership

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TODAY

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated
** denotes all-ticket match*

FA Carling Premiership
West Ham v Man Utd (8.0)

ICIS LEAGUE: Premier division: Purfleet v Walton and Hersham (7.45). Second division: Croydon v Collier R

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Millwall v Chelsea (2.0), Swindon v Bristol Rovers (at Witney Town F.C., 2.0). Tottenham v Arsenal (at St Albans)

PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Newcastle v Birmingham City (at Gateshead FC, 7.0). Wolverhampton v West Bromwich (at Telford F.C).

NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Clitheroe v Chadderton

SCHOOLS MATCHES: English Schools Fuji Film Trophy: Fifth round: West Bromwich v Middlesbrough (Hawthorn 7.0). FA Premier League under-16 Trophy: Devon v Cornwall (Exeter Arena 2.30).

RUGBY UNION

Tour match
Bristol v New South Wales (7.30)

OTHER SPORT

RACING: Newton Abbot (1.30), Warwick (1.50); Southwell (AW, 1.40)

TOMORROW

FOOTBALL

FA CUP: Third round replay: Oldham v Barnsley (7.45)

ENDSLEIGH INSURANCE LEAGUE: Second division: Blackpool v Wycombe, Hull v Brighton; Rotherham v Bradford. Wrexham v Bristol City. Third division: Mansfield v Cambridge United (7.45); Plymouth v Scunthorpe (7.45); Scarborough v Rochdale.

ANGLO-ITALIAN CUP: Semi-final: Ipswich v Port Vale (7.45).

BELL'S SCOTTISH LEAGUE: Premier division: Falkirk v Motherwell, Kilmarnock v Aberdeen, Raith v Partick. First division: Airdrie v Greenock Morton, Dumbarton v Dundee, St Johnstone v Clydebank. Second division: Forfar v Montrose, Queen Of South v Berwick, Stenhousemuir v East Fife. Third division: Brechin v Alloa, Caley This v Ross County

VAUXHALL CONFERENCE: Postponed: Telford v Hednesford (7.45).

RUGBY UNION

Kick-off 7.0

HEINEKEN LEAGUE: First division: Swansea v Pontypridd, Llanelli v Ebbw Vale

WRU MIDWEEK COMPETITION: Pool A: Blaina v Pontypool; Cross Keys v Abercynon. Pool B: Dunvant v Tenby United, Narberth v Llandovery. Pool C: Cardiff Inst v Caerphilly; Llanharan v South Wales Police. Pool D: Bonymaen v Maesteg, Tondu v Ystradgynlais.

OTHER SPORT

BOXING: World Boxing Organisation intercontinental super-middleweight championship. Mark Delaney (West Ham, holder) v Dairan Griffiths (Wales) (York Hall, Bethnal Green).

RACING: Leicester (1.30); Market Rasen (1.40), Lingfield Park (AW, 1.50).

SWIMMING: World Cup meeting (Sheffield).

WEDNESDAY

FOOTBALL

INTERNATIONAL MATCH: Italy v Wales (at Terni).

COCA-COLA CUP: Quarter-final replays: Birmingham v Norwich (7.45).

ENDSLEIGH INSURANCE LEAGUE: First division: Sunderland v Grimsby (7.45).

BELL'S SCOTTISH LEAGUE: First division: Hamilton v St Mirren. Second division: Stirling v Clyde.

RUGBY UNION

TOUR MATCH: Newport v New South Wales (7.0).

REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: Oxford University v RAF (3.0).

CLUB MATCHES: Bridgend v South Wales Police (7.15). Moseley v Loughborough Student (7.30).

OTHER SPORT

BOWLS: Welsh national singles finals (Llanelli).

BASKETBALL: Budweiser League: Newcastle v Manchester (8.0); Leicester v Thames Valley (8.0). National Cup: Quarter-finals: Crystal Palace v Leopards (8.0): Hemel v Birmingham (8.0).

RACING: Folkestone (1.20); Sedgefield (1.40), Wolverhampton (AW, 2.0).

SWIMMING: World Cup meeting (Sheffield)

THURSDAY

RUGBY UNION

CLUB MATCH: Askeans v Brunel University (7.30)

OTHER SPORT

BOWLS: CIS Welsh Masters (Llanelli).

RACING: Huntingdon (1.20), Wincanton (1.30), Lingfield Park (AW, 1.40)

FRIDAY

FOOTBALL

ENDSLEIGH INSURANCE LEAGUE: Third division: Doncaster v Mansfield.

OTHER SPORT

BASKETBALL: Budweiser League: Leopards v Leicester (7.30), London v Sheffield (7.15).

BOWLS: CIS Welsh Masters (Llanelli).

HOCKEY: European women's indoor tournament (Glasgow).

RACING: Doncaster (1.0); Lingfield Park (1.10); Southwell (AW, 1.30).

SATURDAY

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 3.0 unless stated

FA CUP: Fourth round: *Bolton v Leeds; Charlton v Brentford; Coventry v Manchester City; Everton v Port Vale, *Shrewsbury v Liverpool, Tottenham v Wolverhampton; Huddersfield v Peterborough, Ipswich v Walsall, Middlesbrough v Wimbledon; *Reading v Manchester United; Southampton v Crewe, Nottingham Forest v Oxford United; Swindon v Barnsley/Oldham; West Ham v Grimsby.

ENDSLEIGH INSURANCE LEAGUE: First division: Crystal Palace v Luton; Watford v Derby. Second division: Bradford v Notts County, Burnley v Bristol Rovers; Carlisle v Rotherham; Swansea v Stockport; Wrexham v Bournemouth; Wycombe v Brighton; York v Chesterfield. Third division: Chester v Wigan; Colchester v Cambridge United; Exeter v Cardiff; Fulham v Darlington; Gillingham v Barnet; Hereford v Plymouth; Leyton Orient v Scarborough; Northampton v Hartlepool, Preston v Bury; Rochdale v Torquay; Scunthorpe v Lincoln.

VAUXHALL CONFERENCE: Bath v Kidderminster; Bromsgrove v Morecambe, Dagenham and Red v Runcorn; Dover v Altrincham; Gateshead v Woking; Hednesford v Stevenage; Northwich v Kettering; Southport v Slough; Stalybridge v Farnborough; Telford v Halifax; Welling v Macclesfield.

TENNENTS SCOTTISH CUP: Third round: Berwick v Dundee United; Caley This v East Fife; Clyde v Dundee; Clydebank v Stirling; Dumbarton v Airdrie; Dunfermline v St Mirren; Falkirk v Stenhousemuir; Greenock Morton v Montrose; Hamilton v St Johnstone; Hearts v Partick; Hibernian v Kilmarnock; Keith v Rangers (at Pittodrie, 3.0); Raith v Queen's Park; Ross County v Forfar.

BELL'S SCOTTISH LEAGUE: Second division: Ayr v Stranraer. Third division: East Stirling v Alloa.

RUGBY UNION

Kick-off 2.30 unless stated

TOUR MATCH: Pontypridd v New South Wales

CIS COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP: South semi-final: Middlesex v Surrey (at O Merchants Taylors).

PILKINGTON CUP: Fifth round: Bedford v Bristol (3.0), Leeds v London Irish (2.15); Leicester v Saracens (3.0); Newcastle v Harlequins (3.0); Nottingham v Gloucester (3.0); Wakefield v Bath; West Hartlepool v Coventry (3.0); Winnington Park v Wasps.

COURAGE CLUBS CHAMPIONSHIP: Second division: Moseley v Northampton (3.0).

HEINEKEN LEAGUE: Second division: Abercynon v Llanharan; Pontypool v Maesteg.

RUGBY LEAGUE

SILK CUT CHALLENGE CUP: Fourth round: Castleford v St Helens (3.05)

OTHER SPORT

ATHLETICS: Great Britain v Russia (National Indoor Arena, Birmingham).

BASKETBALL: Budweiser League: Derby v Doncaster (8.0); Hemel v Birmingham (7.30); Thames Valley v Manchester (8.0); Worthing v Leicester (8.0).

HOCKEY: European women's indoor tournament (Glasgow).

RACING: Ayr (1.0); Cheltenham (1.10); Doncaster (1.0); Lingfield Park (AW, 1.40).

SNOOKER: Regal Welsh Open (Newport).

SUNDAY

FOOTBALL

FA CUP: Fourth round: Sheffield United v Aston Villa (4.0)

TENNENTS SCOTTISH CUP: Third round: Whitehill W v Celtic (at Easter Road, 3.0).

RUGBY LEAGUE

Kick-off 3.0 unless stated

SILK CUT CHALLENGE CUP: Fourth round: Bradford v Batley; Carlisle v Wakefield (2.0); Dewsbury v London Broncos; Huddersfield v Sheffield (3.30); Hull v Hunslet (3.15), Hull KR v Leigh (3.15), Keighley v Barrow (3.15); Oldham v Warrington; Rochdale v Thatto Heath; Salford v Featherstone, Swinton v Leeds, Whitehaven v Halifax (3.30); Wigan v Bramley; Workington v Widnes.

OTHER SPORT

BASKETBALL: Budweiser League: Chester v Leopards (5.0), Doncaster v Newcastle (5.30); Sheffield v Worthing (6.15), London v Derby (5.0).

HOCKEY: European women's indoor tournament (Glasgow).

SNOOKER: Regal Welsh Open (Newport).

هكذا من الأصل

Winners in the race for cash

Charities are head-to-head in a fight for funds, says

Widget Finn

Competitive tendering has reached the voluntary sector. Recently, 15 selected national charities were invited by Midland Bank to compete for slices of a £1 million sponsorship cake. Shelter, Age Concern and the National Deaf Children's Society won — but are there also losers?

The National Deaf Children's Society (NDCS) will receive £65,000 a year for three years after pitching against other disability charities including John Grooms' Association and the National Dyslexia Association. Its prizewinning project, a roadshow of technology equipment and information, will visit 500 deaf schools and centres to help to improve the lives of some 35,000 deaf children.

Allied Dunbar favours inviting charities in a limited field — currently domestic violence and dementia — to propose projects for funding with the prior assurance of support. Des Palmer, the community affairs officer at Allied Dunbar, says: "Making charities compete for money forces them into a market-led world which isn't necessarily healthy." He also questions whether banning entrants who receive sponsorship from other financial institutions is an entirely charitable attitude. "The most important thing is for the charity to have maximum benefit," he says.

Sponsors are understandably keen to maximise their own business benefit and Midland's partnership scheme will be tied in with a marketing-led initiative and tactical advertising campaign. The link between the charity's projects and the bank's business objectives was an important criterion in the judging process. Young people are prime targets for new banking business, which may be why the largest donation, £560,000 over three years, went to the "youth" category prizewinner.

Does competitive tendering sound the death-knell for more traditional fundraising methods? Stephen Lee, the director of the Institute of Charity Fundraising Managers, says: "Competitive tendering is effective but it should never become the principal method of company giving. The number of charities involved in the tendering process is restricted so a few charities get a large dollop of corporate jam."

Midland's £1 million "corporate partnerships" are just one aspect of its charitable giving, argues Belinda Furneaux-Harris, the head of the bank's sponsorship and donations. The organisation's five geographical divisions each handle a budget of £250,000 for local causes, and a staff scheme which matches pound for pound raised £600,000 last year.

Shortlisted charities, including the Prince's Trust, the National Dyslexia Association and Help the Aged, did a presentation on the work of their organisation and a project for sponsorship. Shelter, prizewinner in the youth category, is setting up a network to offer practical help and advice with housing for young homeless people, including university students spending their first term away from home. Age Concern's £100,000 sponsorship will fund the new "Safe and Warm" campaign to help old people to make their homes energy efficient.

The standard of presentations was impressively high, says Ms Furneaux-Harris, though several charities were marked down because they failed to link their projects to Midland's stated objectives. Is there a danger that charities which lack resources or business expertise are inevitably going to be the losers?

Mark Astarita, the director of public affairs at the NDCS, says: "The NDCS has an annual income of just over £1.2 million and only 25 staff, so we enlisted the help of a very friendly PR agency which gave us free advice. A small charity needn't be daunted by competing against the big boys — they may be hampered by bureaucracy and fail to come up quickly with a creative approach. We all sat round the table and brainstormed, came to a decision and had time to fine-tune the presentation."

Queenie Copping, fundraising manager at Whizz-Kidz which provides wheelchairs for children, lost out in the Midland tender, but says: "We learnt a lot about how to write a viable business plan and now we have the confidence to approach other organisations."

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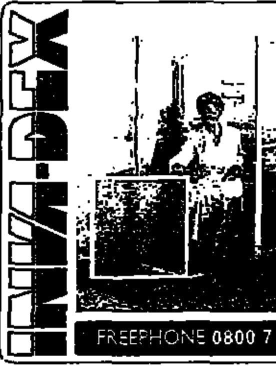

MIKE WALKER

Pauline Lishman's dog, Angus, carries her shopping, helps her off with her hat and fetches her mobile phone. Many people use animal partners

Disabled pound tempts traders

Retailers have woken up to the economic power of six million neglected shoppers

At best an ordeal, at worst a nightmare; until very recently this was the experience of most disabled people faced with the stressful business of shopping. The past five years have seen not only a change in public perception, but also the phenomenon of the market waking up to the potential rewards of recognising the needs of Britain's six million people with disabilities. Many are following the lead of cities such as Hereford, which has a pedestrianised centre, free wheelchair hire and a network of information and advice centres.

Today, leading stores and supermarkets provide a wide range of aids; parking spaces close to entrances; automatic revolving doors; specially designed toilets with low-level washing and drying facilities; low-level public payphones; wide aisles, and wheelchairs with specially-adapted trolleys. Many petrol stations have Servicecall, an electronic request system.

Boots publishes a free mail-order catalogue of its independence range — goods aimed at assisting with walking, bedroom and bathroom aids, cutlery, wheelchairs and accessories. John Lewis provides factsheets detailing facilities for disabled customers in its stores and, at Harrods and Selfridges, staff are on hand to accompany shoppers in wheelchairs.

Sainsbury's started a campaign called Helping Hands last year to raise awareness among staff of customers with disabilities. At each of the 356 stores around Britain, at least six members of staff are trained to meet special needs and provide practical help. Innovations include minicom telephone systems, allowing telephone communication with deaf customers, scales that speak the weight of produce for blind customers, wheelchairs, trolleys designed for use with wheelchairs, and tactile signs with raised lettering. In addition, Sainsbury's is working with the Royal National Institute for the Blind to develop a project which helps customers to "read" shelf labels. This involves a device which scans the label and converts the details into an audio message.

For the housebound, a return to the way grandma shopped may be the answer. As yet available only in the London area, Flanagan & Company Supermarket Direct offers home delivery. Customers choose from an extensive range covering most items available in a large superstore. The service aims to be as personal as possible — should an item be unavailable, the customer is telephoned with a suggestion for an alternative. Delivery is free for the first order with a £4 charge for subsequent orders. Goods arrive packaged in labelled carrier bags ready for storage.

A novel and highly effective solution to the problem of shopping is a specially trained dog. In Bristol, Alex the dog, owned by Ian Free, a paraplegic, helps with shopping by placing goods in a bag on Mr Free's lap and later transfers them to the checkout counter. He also "buys" Mr Free's lunch at the local pub, opens doors, fetches keys and takes the washing out of the machine.

In West Sussex, Angus, a golden retriever owned by multiple sclerosis sufferer Pauline Lishman, is a familiar sight as he accompanies his mistress shopping, with her basket gripped firmly between his teeth. Angus has such impeccable manners that should Ms Lishman's plate slip and food fall on the floor, he will retrieve it and place it back on the plate. At bedtime he performs his final task, placing a mobile phone under her pillow.

The idea of animal partners was criticised when it was pioneered in America 15 years ago, because of the inhumane training methods employed, such as the use of electric shock collars to enforce obedience.

CPI — Canine Partners for Independence — was set up in Britain by Ann Conway and Liz Ormerod five years ago. Unlike its American counterparts, CPI relies on training by motivation.

Nina Bondarenko, the training director, says: "It is a matter of waiting for the behaviour you want, rewarding it when it happens, and then putting a word to it. For instance, as a puppy turns round — for any reason — we reward the initial turn and then withold the reward until the puppy tries a bigger turn. We then reward the full turn and once the puppy turns readily we put the word 'turnaround' on it."

Golden retrievers respond best to the two-year training. CPI has placed three dogs, has six 12-month-old puppies about to begin advanced training and six puppies embarking on the 14-month course, during which they will learn 70 commands. Elsewhere in Britain, Support Dogs is a volunteer organisation which teaches existing pets simple commands, while Dogs for the Disabled, affiliated to Guide Dogs for the Blind, trains guide dogs.

Ros Drinkwater

- *Supermarket Direct 0181-877 8010; CPI 01705 450156.*

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Further details of Holiday Care awards from Derek Moore (01293 776943)

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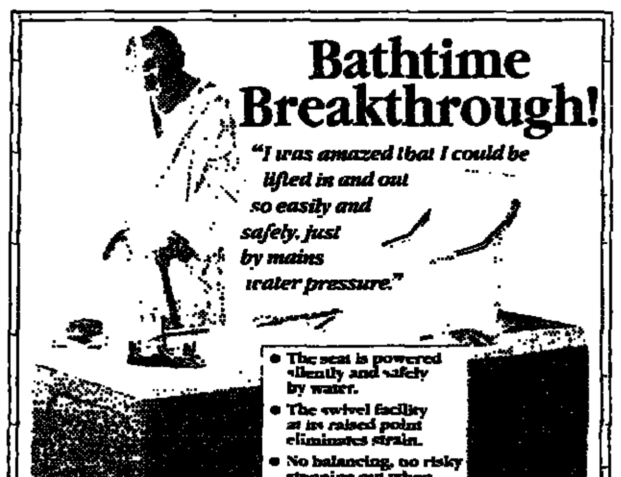

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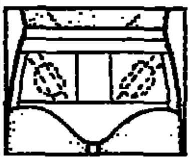

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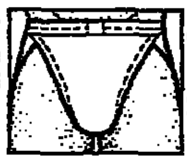

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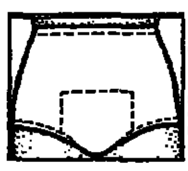

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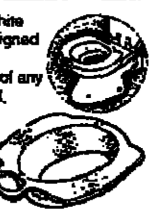

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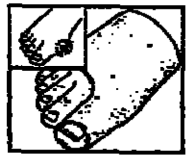

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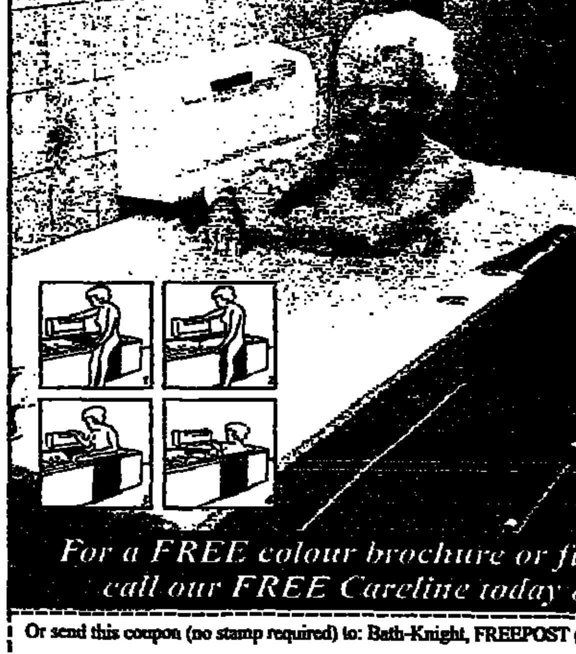

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Pat Blair goes in search of hotels and self-catering centres where disability means assistance, understanding and minimal fuss

A helping hand on holiday

From Dorset to the Isle of Arran, London to Northumberland, there are hotels and camping sites, tourist attractions and caravan parks that have won the approval of people with a disability who would recommend them to others for a holiday.

Accessibility and normality are the keys to such approval. Whether the client is in a wheelchair, deaf, blind or has some other disability, he or she wants as normal an independent life as possible — and the facilities to make that possible.

The 700-bedroom Mount Royal Hotel, near Marble Arch in central London, spent £35,000 a room on five rooms and £150,000 on the hotel entrance to bring itself up the Category 1 standard that would make a guest with a disability feel comfortable and able to move around with ease. That, and the friendly approach of its staff, won it two awards in the 1995 Holiday Care Awards run by Holiday Care Service (HCA), a national information and support service for disabled people.

HCA, together with the four national tourist boards, inspects establishments against the Tourism for All national accessible standard agreed in 1993 by the Hotel and Holiday Consortium. Those that have passed the standard can display the Tourism for All symbol, in one of three categories.

"Accessibility doesn't just stop with the building," says David Phillips, chief executive of Holiday Care Service. "It is the training, literature and information given to people, including staff. For example, one hotel had a special low-level check-in desk installed, but forgot to tell the hall porter, who used it for luggage. Training has to be constantly refreshed."

Mount Royal, part of the Thistle and Mount Charlotte hotel group, gained its accolades as the "best hotel accommodation of 20 bedrooms and over"; Barbara Sheridan, executive head housekeeper, was "most helpful member of staff".

"We believe there is a market out there and it is important that we provide for that market," says Rachel Smith, deputy general manager. *The group, with more than* 100 hotels nationwide, aims to have rooms suitable for disabled people in most of them.

"When our guests come into the hotel, they may need some assistance but they want to feel at ease," Miss Smith says. Mrs Sheridan's appointment was to do just that. "We had many letters to the hotel and to the Holiday Care Awards about the excellent service she gave. But everyone has to care, and staff training has been very important — from the doorman to the chambermaids, receptionist, everyone."

Dene House Farm Cottages, at Longframlington in Northumberland, came top in the category for best self-catering accommodation. The four holiday cottages, on a *working farm of more than 100* acres, were built in 1992 specifically to be accessible to all. "Everyone is entitled to have an independent holiday," says Patricia Wilson, who runs them.

The cottages, which normally sleep five, were designed with the help of an architect and attention was paid to such things as turning space, bathrooms, the height of light switches and clothes rails. "A lot of these things are common sense," says Mrs Wilson.

Not only are the cottages fully accessible, but so are the farm buildings, which means that for example, a father in a wheelchair could watch a ewe lambing with his children. Similar *attention is paid to recommending* local restaurants. "We check places ourselves," says Mrs Wilson.

For people with a disability, getting to their holiday destination can be a problem, especially if they have no car. How easy is it to travel by plane, train or coach? What happens after arriving at the airport or train station? Here, the charity Tripscope can step in to help.

Tripscope — slogan: "solving mobility problems" — was founded in 1987 by Claudia Flanders, the widow of the entertainer Michael Flanders, of the Flanders and Swann musical comedy partnership, who was a wheelchair user and travelled the world in the decades before provision of facili*ties for the disabled became more* widespread.

It offers assistance and advice free to elderly or disabled people and those who care for them, on any aspect of travel, by private car or public transport.

Guides and information:

- AA/Rover Guide for the Disabled Traveller, £3.99 from AA shops, free to AA members.
- Access to the Underground: free guide available from London Transport Unit for Disabled Passengers (0171-918 3312).
- European Holidays and Travel 1996: a guide for disabled people. £5 incl P&P from RADAR.
- Holidays in the British Isles 1996: a guide for disabled people. £7 incl P&P from RADAR.
- The Holiday Care Guide to Accessible Accommodation & Travel 1996. £5.95 from the Holiday Care Service.
- *Holiday Care Service: 2nd Floor, Imperial Buildings, Victoria Road, Horley, Surrey RH6 7PZ (01293 774535). RADAR: 12 City Forum, 250 City Road, London EC1V 8AF (0171-250 3222). Tripscope: 0181-994 9294 (London), 01179 414094 (Bristol).*

Making the disabled able

Widget Finn looks at the help given to those with spinal injuries

Photographs of Stephen Hawking, the physicist, and of Christopher Reeve, the actor, make a powerful point. They show how modern technology can transform lives giving movement to the immobile and speech to the silent.

Martin Ferguson-Pell, the newly appointed Aspire Professor of Technology and Disability at University College London, is investigating ways in which technology can overcome the disabling effects of damage to the central nervous system. Spinal cord injury prevents messages from the brain from being transmitted down through the spine to the limbs and Aspire is a charity which helps those affected to lead independent lives.

In the UK 40,000 people have spinal cord injury as a result of accidents. A further 400,000 have damaged spinal cords through illnesses such as spina bifida, tumours, polio, multiple sclerosis and motor neurone disease, or from conditions affecting the brain including Parkinson's disease, cerebral palsy and brain tumours.

There are admirable advances in technology to help disabled people but work is fragmented. Professor Ferguson-Pell says doctors are in danger of regularly reinventing the technological wheel. A trained physicist with a PhD in biomedical engineering, he has worked for 11 years in America, most recently as director of the Centre for Rehabilitation Technology at the Helen Hayes Hospital, New York.

The professor has a network of colleagues and collaborators worldwide who can form expert teams at national and international level. He says: "We are aiming for a global philosophy on technology and disability which will bridge the Atlantic so that the best work that is being done on both sides can be utilised by everyone."

The professor says that designs are needed which benefit both able-bodied and disabled people. For instance, "sloping kerbstones cost very little and installing them makes it easier for wheelchair-users and pushers to mount the pavement. They are also safer for anyone who is elderly."

The newly introduced Disability Discrimination Act requires all service providers to ensure reasonable access for disabled customers. Professor Ferguson-Pell's programme will provide companies with information and expertise on design and technology which will help them to comply with legal requirements.

In the past decade the range of products to assist disabled people to become more independent has expanded rapidly. Products which used to be designed with the purchaser, usually the NHS, in mind are now more user-friendly. The NHS wants wheelchairs which are robust and easy to maintain, while the person who sits in or pushes a wheelchair wants one which is lightweight and easily folded. The Government's policy of cash not care will focus technology design on what is best for the user, says the professor.

"If disabled people are given the money to purchase their own equipment then normal market-based forces will apply," he says. "They will look for equipment which works well and feels good for them — at a price they can afford. The drawback is that unless a disabled person has specialist advice, he or she may choose inappropriate equipment. We have to help them to become informed about the technology which is available."

The professor also plans to continue working in his main area of interest, the research of pressure sores. These are a secondary but often important complication of disability. "The creative part of my job, doing research at laboratory level, is what I enjoy most."

Aspire's £3.4 million appeal still needs the final £1 million to achieve its target, which will maintain the Chair of Disability and Technology in perpetuity.

- *Aspire: 0181-954 0701*

PETER TREVNOR

Professor Ferguson-Pell shows Jason Courage a pressure mapping system

Low technology for wheelchair design

Yesterday a team of three people set off from London for Albania. Their mission: to set up a self-financing project to design and make wheelchairs. It is one of several ventures undertaken by Motivation, a charity started in 1991 to help people in poor countries. Last week a Motivation team of two arrived in Indonesia: a similar team is completing a project in Romania.

Motivation experts have travelled thousands of miles in the five years since two of its directors, David Constantine and Simon Gue, then industrial design students at the Royal College of Art, won a competition to design a wheelchair for the Third World.

In March, a team will be in Nicaragua, as a result of contacts made by the British Ambassador. There it will work with disability organisations to help to set up two workshops to produce wheelchairs that can be used by adults and children and in hospitals and other institutions, taking account of local factors.

Richard Frost, a director of the charity, says: "Somewhere like Romania differs a lot from Nicaragua. People's living conditions are different and chairs have to be able to cope with the physical conditions. In Nicaragua, many more people live in rural areas where there are no paved roads, and a lot of rain and mud after the monsoons."

> The Third World is getting British expertise

A three-wheel chair may be easier to ride over rough ground but not to manoeuvre round a small apartment, for which a four-wheel chair may be more appropriate. Nicaraguan houses are often small, crowded and unsuitable for wheelchiars: in Romania, people want to be able to use their chairs indoors.

Motivation's designs must incorporate locally obtainable, inexpensive materials for building and repair. In Bangladesh, small wheels were not easy to find, so designs centred around the larger, widely available rickshaw wheel. Cambodia had no regular supply of steel tubing, so wheelchairs are made of wood.

Motivation projects last from three months to a year, and after completion a local partner takes over to finance and run them when Motivation's teams move on.

☐ Activity is the byword at the Paralympic Games, being held this August in the United States in Atlanta, Georgia. Some 4,000 athletes from more than 100 countries will be taking part in more than 200 events designed to test the prowess of world-class athletes representing their countries, in the majority of cases in wheelchairs.

☐ Keeping fit is a challenge for people with spinal injury paralysis, says Simon Barnes, one of the three men who in May intend to make the 1,200-mile journey from Land's End to John o' Groat's by hand-cranked wheelchair.

It will be no ordinary wheelchair, but a lightweight, state-of-the-art, three-wheel machine pedalled by hand from a seated position. Mr Barnes spent last week testing chairs for the Push 2000 trip, which aims to raise £500,000 for the International Spinal Research Trust and spread the message that paralysed people ought to keep fit to be in good shape to take advantage of any medical advances that may help them to walk again.

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STARTING TODAY: YOUR CHANCE TO FLY FREE WITH VIRGIN ATLANTIC

Two for one flight offer

Special on-board facilities for children

Buy one flight and you can take a friend with you for free*. It is the sort of offer that immediately makes you want to celebrate Spring by flying off to somewhere special.

The Times, in association with Virgin Atlantic, brings you this exciting opportunity to take an extra holiday with a partner for just a fraction of the normal cost.

All you have to do is collect four tokens which will be *published in your favourite* quality daily newspaper this week, pay the applicable fare shown in the route/fare guide, *right, and you will receive* another return ticket for the same flight free*.

The offer is for travel in *economy class which is made* more comfortable with Virgin Atlantic because the company is committed to pampering every passenger.

You get complimentary drinks served throughout the flight and a choice of three meals, including a vegetarian option. Special dietary meals are also available on request.

With Virgin Atlantic you get spacious seats and individual seatback TV screens. You can watch what you want, selecting from up to 32 channels of interactive entertainment, including the latest films, drama, comedy, news and 16 audio channels.

Children can be taken on this offer and they are likely to enjoy the flight as much as the destination. There is a dedicated children's channel and all new aircraft have a Super Nintendo channel featuring 10 games providing enough entertainment to keep youngsters occupied throughout even the longest flight.

Children are also provided with special meals and a free kid's rucksack which contains sunglasses, baseball cap, puzzle, colouring book and crayons, socks, eyeshades, toothbrush and paste, and a personal headset.

** See terms and conditions below.*

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New York	LHR	Daily	£399	£449
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Hong Kong	LHR	Daily	£999	£1,049
Boston	LGW	Daily	£329	£379
Miami	LGW	Wed/Thur/Fri Sat/Sun	£439	£489
Athens	LHR	Daily	£228	£258

Save £30 off the low season fare when you travel between February 1 and 29 inclusive.

* A supplement of £30 applies to all tickets for weekend travel (Friday-Sunday).

Airport, Air Passenger Duty and Security Tax is not included in the offer. The amount of such taxes varies up to a maximum of £35 and must be paid by both passengers.

THE TIMES 2 FOR 1 BOOKING FORM

Attach four Times tokens. Please complete using block capitals

Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms .... Initials .... Surname ....

Address ....

....

.... Postcode ....

Daytime Tel No ....

Declaration — I accept the booking conditions and I am 18 years old or over

Signature .... Date ....

PLEASE ENSURE YOU COMPLETE YOUR FLIGHT DETAILS AFTER YOUR BOOKING HAS BEEN CONFIRMED

Destination .... Booking locator number ....

Departure date .... Return date ....

virgin atlantic

How the offer works

Collect four tokens from *The Times* and attach them to the booking form, left. You can also use the bonus token which appeared in *The Sunday Times* yesterday. Then call Virgin Reservations to make your initial booking on: **01293 747241.** After your reservation has been confirmed by telephone, complete the booking form, including the information about flight times and the booking location number. Post the form to: **Virgin Atlantic Ticketing Department, Sussex House, High St, Crawley, West Sussex RH10 1DQ.**

Alternatively you can book your flights through any IATA travel agent but your tickets will not be issued until you present the completed official booking form and your four Times tokens.

You can fly from London Heathrow (LHR) to Newark, JFK, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Athens and Hong Kong and from London Gatwick (LGW) to Boston or Miami. With the exception of the Easter holidays and flights to Hong Kong during Chinese New Year, you can choose when to go. The offer is valid from February 1 until June 20, 1996 and bookings can be made anytime prior to departure providing full payment has been made.

In addition if you choose to travel to any of the destinations shown between February 1 and 29, you can save an extra £30 off the low season fare and still qualify for a free* ticket.

The Easter embargo lasts from March 21 to April 14, 1996, and the Chinese New Year embargo from February 12 to 25, 1996.

All flights are subject to availability and both passengers must travel on the same flights and on the same dates. Passengers are required to stay a minimum of one Saturday night.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. This offer is valid for return travel on certain Virgin Atlantic services as set out below. Travel is permitted between Heathrow and Newark, JFK, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Athens and Hong Kong and between Gatwick and Boston and Miami. Travel is not permitted to the following destinations: Orlando, Tokyo or Dublin.
2. In order to take advantage of this special offer, you must present four original *Times* tokens together with an original booking form. *Photocopies will not be* accepted.
3. This offer is only applicable to journeys originating from the UK.
4. All travel, outbound and return, must take place between February 1 and June 20, 1996 inclusive. An Easter embargo period of March 21 to April 14, 1996 inclusive will be imposed on all routes. In addition, travel will not be permitted on the Hong Kong route between February 12 and 25, 1996 inclusive. There is a minimum stay of one Saturday night. Midweek travel applies to travel Monday to Thursday. Weekend travel applies to travel Friday to Sunday.
5. Reservations for this offer can be made anytime prior to departure, providing full payment has been made. Reservations can be made directly with Virgin Atlantic or through any IATA travel agent.
6. Except as otherwise provided in these terms and conditions, the standard booking conditions and terms and conditions of travel on Virgin Atlantic apply to all reservations made pursuant to the offer. A copy of Virgin Atlantic's terms *and conditions can be obtained from any Virgin Atlantic office.*
7. Availability of these special promotional tickets is limited for each flight. Some flights may already be booked and consequently no seats will be available for this offer. In addition, certain routes are more popular than others so the earlier you book, the better chance you will have of obtaining the seats on the flights of your choice.
8. This offer is for travel in Economy Class only on the services operated by Virgin Atlantic Airways Limited.
9. This offer only applies to two passengers travelling together on the same flights and on the same dates.
10. This offer relates to the purchase of one Special Winter Apex fare to one of the *permitted destinations in point 1 above, and only then will the second ticket* be issued subject to these conditions and point 11.
11. Airport Tax, Air Passenger Duty and Security Charges are not included in this 2 for 1 offer and will be charged separately, both in relation to the ticket purchased and the free ticket. The amount of such taxes is subject to variation currently at £35 per person. Such taxes must be paid prior to ticket issue.
12. This offer may not be used in conjunction with any other promotion or promotional fare mounted by Virgin Atlantic or any other third party.
13. Passengers are responsible for their own accommodation, passport and visa requirements, they should also take out their own insurance.
14. In the event that tickets issued pursuant to this offer are lost or stolen, replacements will be issued upon the customer completing a form of indemnity. A charge of £30 per pair of tickets will be payable.
15. In the event of any cancellation before or on the date of departure, a charge of £50 per pair of tickets will be made. This charge will be waived in the event of death and/or illness of the passenger or an immediate family member as evidenced by death/medical certificate. After the date of planned departure no refund will be given.
16. Once a reservation has been confirmed, changes may be made at a charge *of £50 per pair of tickets.*
17. Applicants must be 18 years of age or over. Only two applications may be made per household.
18. This offer does not apply to the purchase of a ticket to which a child *discount applies. However, a child may occupy the free seat if required.* Infants under two years of age, not occupying a seat, will be charged at 10 percent of the Special Winter Apex fare purchased and such infant's travel will *not* affect a customer's ability to take up the offer.
19. Force Majeure. *Once this offer has been redeemed,* Virgin Atlantic shall not be liable for any failure to comply with their obligation if caused by weather conditions, fire, flood, strike, hurricane, industrial dispute, war, hostilities, political unrest, riot, civil commotion, inevitable accidents, acts of God or any *other circumstances amounting to Force Majeure.*
20. Virgin Atlantic flight schedules are subject to change without notice.
21. Booking forms and tokens cannot be redeemed for cash.
22. Existing bookings or options cannot be amended to comply with this offer.
23. No Virgin Freeway miles will be awarded for travel under this promotion.
24. This offer is not open to employees of Virgin Atlantic Airways or News International.
25. *The Times* cannot be held responsible for any disputes you may have with Virgin Atlantic or with any IATA agent participating in this offer, and accepts no liability for any loss or injury suffered by any reader who books a flight using the 2 for 1* offer. All readers must settle disputes direct with Virgin Atlantic or the IATA agents.
26. *The Times* cannot be held responsible for applications, tokens or tickets lost or delayed in the course of delivery.

THE TIMES

virgin atlantic

2 FOR 1

TOKEN 1

GET *THE TIMES* TOMORROW TO COLLECT TOKEN 2

YOUR CHANCE TO WIN FREE FLIGHTS AND VIRGIN STORE VOUCHERS

Win prizes worth £50,000

Today *The Times*, in association with Virgin Atlantic, introduces an exciting new scratchcard game with £50,000 worth of prizes to be won. There are 50 pairs of Virgin flights and 1,000 £5 Virgin Store vouchers up for grabs.

HOW TO PLAY

On your accumulator card, which is inserted in *The Times* today, there are three separate grids of 25 squares each. Each grid represents a separate game:

- ● Game 1, the game we are playing this week, is dated Monday 22-27 January
- ● Game 2 is dated Monday 29 January to Saturday 3 February and begins next week
- ● The Internet game, a two-week game which also starts today and runs until Saturday 3 February. The Internet game is available for UK residents only.

Each day this week we will publish a set of numbers for Game 1 in the newspaper. Today's numbers for Game 1 appear right. Scratch off only those silver panels on the Game 1 grid on your card for each of the numbers printed today. Do not scratch off *any other silver panels for which numbers* have not been printed.

When you scratch off a silver panel you will reveal one of the following symbols: *passport, aeroplane, palm tree, sunset,* camera or CD.

HOW TO WIN A PRIZE

If you reveal five identical symbols on your Game 1 grid during this week, eg five cameras, you will win a free flight for two with Virgin Atlantic.

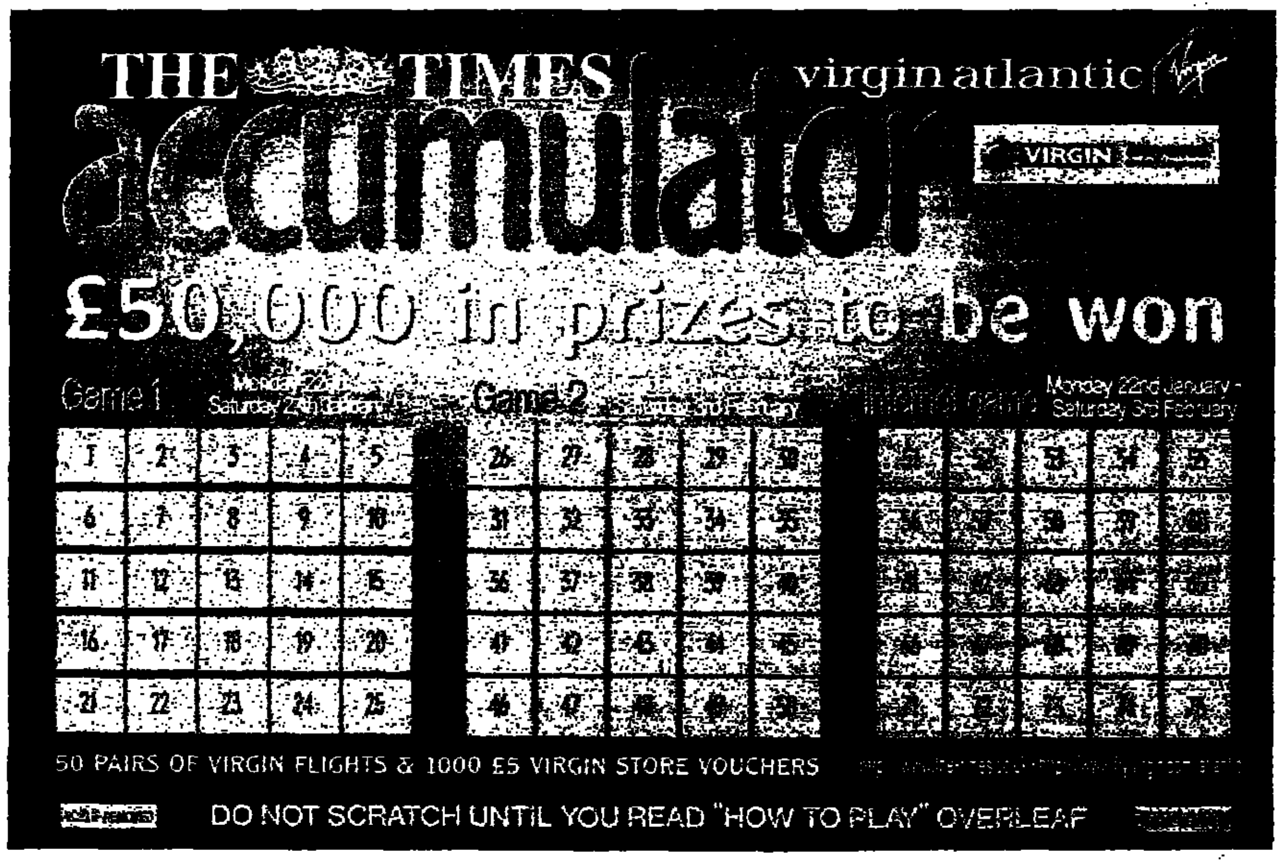
If you reveal one CD symbol on your Game 1 grid during this week you will win a £5 Virgin Store voucher.

HOW TO CLAIM YOUR FREE FLIGHT

If you reveal a fifth identical symbol on your Game 1 grid any day this week you must claim your prize on that day by *phoning our Accumulator hotline on* **0171-867 0406** between 9.30am and 3pm. Late claims will not be accepted.

HOW TO CLAIM YOUR £5 VOUCHER

If you reveal a CD symbol on your Game 1 grid any day this week you must claim your prize on that day by phoning our Accumulator hotline on **0171-867 0400** between 9.30am and 3pm.



VIRGIN beyond entertainment

These two competition hotline numbers for claims apply to readers playing our *Accumulator game in the newspaper and* also to readers playing the separate game on the Internet.

THE INTERNET GAME

The two-week Internet game is played in the same way as the newspaper game but uses different numbers from those in the paper. Simply call up either of the following Web sites: http://www.the-times.co.uk or http://www.fly.virgin.com/atlantic and use the numbers that appear there. *Claim your prizes by calling the competition hotlines printed left.*

For full rules referring to the Accumulator and Internet games, see your scratchcard inserted in today's newspaper.

● If you did not receive a card in today's newspaper call: **0171-782 7155** between 9.30am and 5pm.

THESE ARE THE GAME 1 NUMBERS YOU SHOULD SCRATCH OFF YOUR CARD TODAY

24	3	8
20	5	12

Capitalisation, week's change

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

BANKS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
9,311.20	ABN-AMRO	308⅝	- 3⅛	4.2	11.4
8,712.00	Abbey Nat	668	+ 21½	3.7	13.2
2,519.70	Allied Irish	378	+ 11	3.8	11.0
4,419.90	Aus New Z	318	+ 9	5.1	...
13,979.30	Bank America	3880¼	+ 150	...	...
3,510.50	Bank Scotland	297½	+ 11	2.6	13.2
12,521.80	Barclays	772	+ 22	3.8	10.5
2,308.40	Bk of Ireland	480	+ 7	3.5	9.6
153.20	Cater Allen	470	+ 7	8.0	7.8
17,614.80	Citicorp	4525	+ 461¼	...	...
411.50	Close Bros	337	+ 2	3.2	14.9
3,980.80	Commerzbk	£156	+ 10⅞	3.4	...
37,952.10	Dai Ichi Kan Y	1216¼	- 6¼	0.4	...
14,787.50	Deutsche Bk	3003¼	- 25	2.4	...
152.20	Espirito Santo	712½	+ 50	5.1	9.3
42,432.40	Fuji Bank Y	1404½	+ 22¾	0.4	...
227.90	Gerrard Nat	487	+ 5	6.0	15.1
352.50	Hambros	260	- 4	4.7	...
9,253.60	HSBC	1078	+ 75	3.3	14.0
18,610.90	HSBC HK	1049¼	+ 78	3.4	13.6
851.00	Irish Perm	421	+ 5	2.9	9.7
24.80	Joseph (L)	450	...	5.2	15.6
38.50	King Shaxson	146	- 4	7.7	11.3
17,631.10	Lloyds TSB	347	+ 38	...	...
8,724.30	Nat Aust Bk	611	+ 9	6.6	8.4
11,777.10	Nat West	665	+ 30	4.3	10.3
31.40	Rea Brothers	65	...	1.9	28.0
4,821.80	Royal Bk Scot	572	+ 27	3.5	13.8
2,015.80	Schroders	1335	- 18	1.3	19.0
468.40	Schroders N/V	1080	- 30	1.7	15.1
281.20	Singer & Fried	102	- 4	4.5	10.6
5,984.80	Stand Chart	618	+ 54	1.8	15.5
25.80	Union	97	+ 2	3.9	...
7,162.50	Wells Fargo	£139¼	[illegible]	2.2	...
5,511.20	Westpac	302	+ 12¼	4.5	...
23.20	[illegible]	278	...	5.5	15.2

BREWERIES

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
77.00	Ascot Hldgs	279	+ 1	...	8.8
6,434.30	Bass	732	+ 29	3.9	16.9
575.20	Boddington	473	...	2.4	24.3
38.20	Burtonwood Brwy	174	...	3.9	16.6
40.60	Eldridge P 'A'†	186	+ 2	2.9	...
84.50	Fuller Sm 'A'	414	- 4	2.6	16.3
1,741.70	Greenalls Gp	580	+ 17	3.1	...
254.60	Greene King†	618	- 3	3.0	15.0
63.40	Hardy Hanson	317	+ 4	4.1	...
3.59	[illegible]	155	...	4.5	10.9
96.20	Holt J	5102	- 7	2.2	16.6
239.30	Mansfield	324	+ 4	2.1	16.3
289.50	Marston Thmp	322	+ 3	2.6	15.2
163.00	Morland†	587	+ 14	2.5	16.7
7.12	Paramount†	6	- ¼	4.6	9.6
108.80	Regent Inns	666	...	1.3	27.1
7,584.20	SA Breweries	2575	+ 125	1.4	33.8
3,757.70	Scot & New†	613	+ 6	3.8	16.5
	Scot & New P/P	380	...	...	...
88.30	Tom Cobleigh	224	...	1.5	36.4
417.60	Vaux Group†	297	+ 19	4.3	15.3
240.50	Wetherspoon JD	657	+ 14	1.5	26.7
3,318.60	Whitbread†	688½	+ 13½	3.7	17.0
394.10	Wolverhampton Dt	580	+ 9	3.2	14.4
117.80	Yates Bros†	280	+ 2	1.3	26.6
12.50	Young 'A'	431	...	4.4	17.5

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MOPS

Source: Finstat

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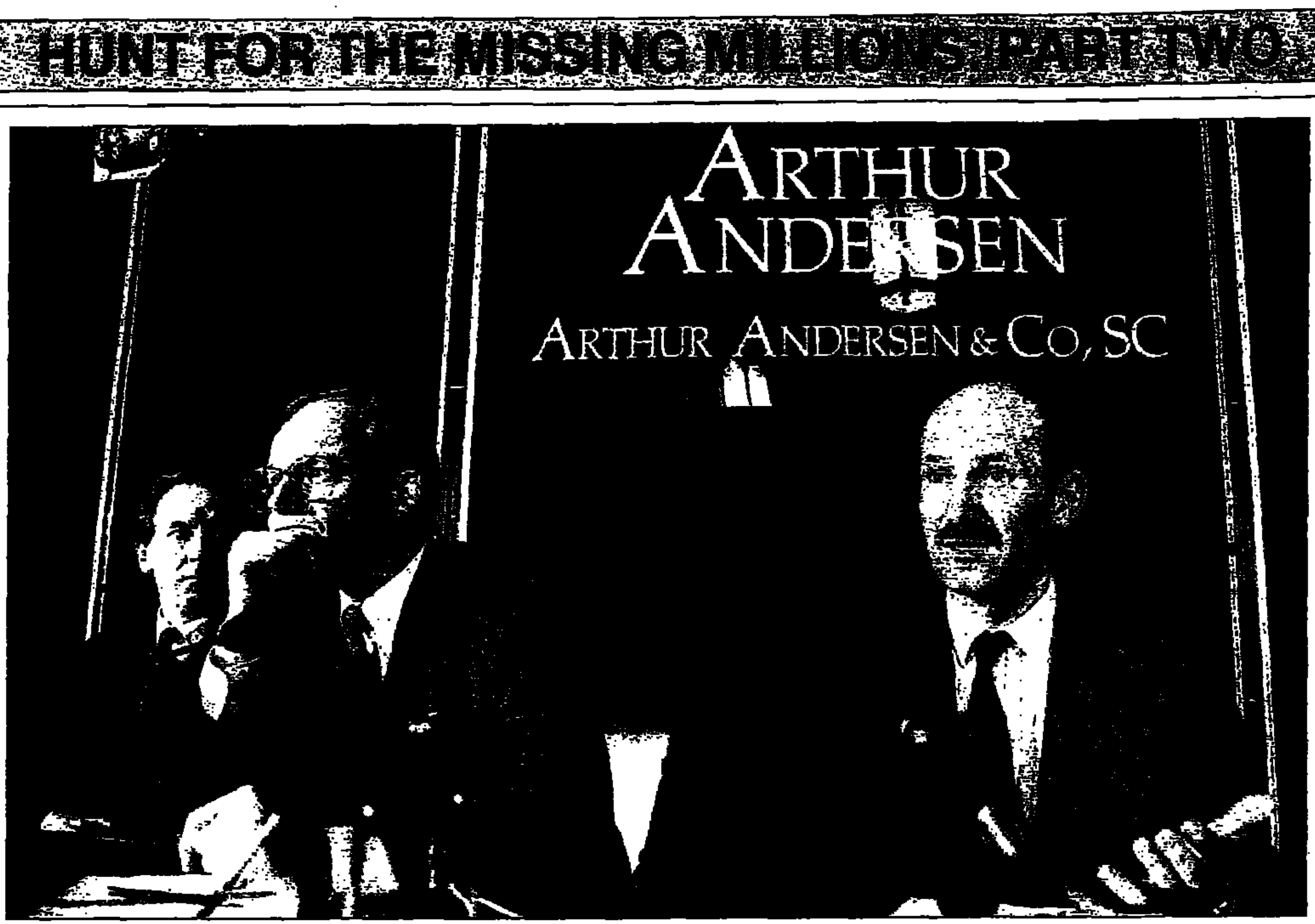
هكذا من الأصل

HUNT FOR THE MISSING MILLIONS PART TWO

In the eye of the storm

Melvyn Marckus resumes our exclusive account of Arthur Andersen's administration of Robert Maxwell's private empire at the initial press conference, at the Chartered Insurance Institute.



John Talbot, right, beside Tony Brierley on the day they fed the Maxwell-baying media news that creditors were owed £1.4 billion

Maxwell's controlling stake in MCC enjoyed a face value of some £150 million, but the press were well aware that MCC — out of funds to the private companies — was seriously overborrowed. *The European* was losing money, while *the Daily News had sought refuge from creditors* under Chapter 11 of the US insolvency laws. Maxwell's minority share stakes would fetch upwards of £50 million. Property interests, including *the Mirror Group offices in Holborn, might* command £150 million. Despite numerous straight bats in the shape of no comments, journalists were left with the impression that Maxwell's assets, *including the MCC/MGN share stakes and trinkets* such as the *Lady Ghislaine*, were worth a maximum of £600 million.

It so happens that the Chartered Insurance *Institute backs on to a museum of ancient* firefighting equipment: a coincidence not lost on the firemen from Surrey Street. The banner headline in the *Evening Standard* read: "Maxwell empire collapses". *Saturation coverage would follow. John* Talbot knew that such publicity would have a knock-on effect. Creditors would refuse to supply Maxwell's myriad trading companies without payment guaran*tees from an independent source: Talbot's orders* were succinct: "Work into the night to bring together cash flows and balance sheets." This information was critical in order to decide which of Maxwell's *companies to "put under" and which to fund before* disposal. Due-diligence style investigations ground on. Three more administration orders were obtained from the Court on Friday, covering The European *Ltd and AGB's two principal operating companies.* Greater control, but not enough.

Once again the platoons were urged to work through the night. Talbot's objective: maximum *material to work off during the weekend. But he had other things on his mind.* Meetings had been held with certain Maxwell employees and Talbot had not liked what he heard. Black holes, hundreds of *millions of pounds deep, in the MCC and MGN* pension funds spoke volumes. Other figures leapt to the fore. Talbot's back-of-envelope calculations indicated that similar sums had been transferred *from Maxwell's private companies to tax havens in* Liechtenstein and other offshore destinations in Europe and America. The inescapable fact was that the key holding companies in Maxwell's private *empire were riddled with irreconcilables. Substan*tial amounts of cash had ultimately been used for clandestine purchases of shares in MCC and, as it later transpired, MGN. A separate investigative *unit, led by partner Chris Currington, was formed to* track the flow of funds. Talbot's short-term aim was to gain swift control of Maxwell's operations and stabilise the situation.

But, if returns to creditors were to be maximised, longer-term objectives needed to be defined. Without such a strategy, the task of reassuring management, employees and suppliers would prove insurmountable: the trading businesses would die. Talbot and his senior managers met at Allen & Overy's Cheapside offices in London on Saturday morning. Decisions needed to be taken as to which companies, on the 400-strong list, should be put down. Obstacles were fast assuming Grand National proportions. Irrespective of the fact that Talbot's relationship with the boards of Headington and RMG had become strained, there could be no guarantee that the *directors would agree to petition for administration* orders over the subsidiaries. Nor, in the time scale, could the directors be persuaded to swear the necessary affidavits. One possible solution was for *Talbot and his co-administrators of Headington and* RMG, to petition as creditors of the offshoots.

This, however, would require proof that the parent companies were owed funds by the satellites. *Inquiries had thrown up huge inter-company fund* flows, mostly emanating from the holding companies, to cover trading losses lower down the pyramid. This, in turn, had created creditor *balances: potential levers for seeking administration* orders. But the position was not clear enough for Talbot to claim that Headington or RMG were owed funds by all the subsidiaries. A complex matrix was produced *to show precisely which companies could* petition which, and in which order the waves of petitions would need to be presented to the Court.

Affidavits to support the petitions would be *required, as would accountants' reports to illustrate* that although the companies were insolvent, there was a reasonable prospect of achieving a more profitable realisation of assets than via liquidation: the *raison d'être* of the administration. The chances of putting this act together in a narrow time frame were nil. The idea was abandoned. As the problems mounted, so did Talbot's fears that the businesses he controlled as a shareholder would rapidly disintegrate. *The principal assets of a host of service* enterprises such as AGB Group and Nuffield Press, were people. If the administrators could not commit themselves to paying salaries, the assets would walk, *leaving precious little to sell. British International* Helicopters was dependent on CAA licences which could be withdrawn at any time. Just for good measure, the "Saturday Club" learnt that Mirror *Group Newspapers had obtained injunctions* against all the "private side" companies.

Several of Talbot's team recall that the Saturday *gathering was "highly charged". Some use* stronger language. The accountants had enjoyed only snatches of sleep for the best part of a week and Talbot made little attempt to disguise his frustration. *As far as Talbot was concerned, the* bureaucracy of the law was preventing him from establishing control over a plethora of companies, many of which required independent management to survive. *Thousands of jobs were at stake. Talbot* argued that the most practical solution would be for the Court to grant a form of interim relief that would give the administrators absolute power over the entire corporate network. This, the lawyers insisted, was a non-runner for legal reasons. At this point, Talbot and Gordon Stewart, who headed Allen & Overy's legal team, disappeared into an adjoining room for a private *tête-à-tête*. When the two reappeared, a decision had been taken. The administrators would attempt to persuade the court that, in view of the massive fraud, the scale of publicity and the need to protect and stabilise *operations, some form of order, covering specific* companies, should be granted, despite the absence of the necessary paperwork. It was agreed that Talbot's team would visit the duty judge at home that *evening, lay their cards on the table and request him* to grant orders that would make the administrators "interim managers" over a host of companies. Talbot's crew were gung-ho, the lawyers less so. *Counsel warned the administrators that they would* be asking the judge to rely on their professional reputations to grant such orders.

The accountants were instructed that, in each case, *they had to be satisfied that:*

☐ The company was registered in the UK

☐ The administrators were creditors of the firm via another company under administration or interim management

☐ The company was insolvent on a balance sheet or cash flow basis

☐ There was a reasonable prospect of realising more from the assets than through a liquidation.

Last, but not least, the administrators had to ascertain that realisable assets, of sorts, existed within each company. Peter Tuch and Julian Gething, another manager, drew the short straw of analysing the Maxwell subsidiaries in order to comply with the directives. The AGB team pored over companies in their orbit that might fit the *criteria. As the onus of advising the judge took its* toll, the list shortened. A little after 6 pm, Talbot and Tuch, armed with two counsel, three solicitors and a near 30-strong list of companies, set off in taxis for Holland Park, west *London, to parley with the duty* judge. Mr Justice Morritt, who presided over the fate of Maxwell's private empire in his drawing room, proved sympathetic. Questions flowed. What were Talbot's objectives? How was the administration going to work? Why was this preferable to a liquidation? In the event, the judge granted an interim manager order over the entire 29 companies put forward, on condition that the relevant papers were submitted to the court by Monday evening. For the first time, as they stood in Holland Park, Talbot's band felt they had some sort of a fix on the black holed, debt-burdened businesses that had blown their way as a result of Maxwell's mysterious parting of the ways with the *Lady Ghislaine*.

A minor problem, particularly for Tuch (tasked with drafting guidelines for the moonwalkers at the trading companies) was that none of the administrators was familiar with an interim manager order — used under Scottish law but hitherto never imported. What was the status of an interim manager? What could he do? After sounding out lawyers and the like, realisation dawned that an interim manager bore an uncanny resemblance to an administrator. The "feel-good" factor after seizure of a significant element of control over Maxwell's empire was soon overtaken by other concerns. This, in theory, was the time to progress from crisis stabilisation to medium-term strategy, but theory and practice were far apart. Sunday morning's meeting saw the humour barometer fall to a new low.

Talbot & Co now controlled 34 of Maxwell's companies, including all the principal trading operations. Such was the partly filled glass syndrome. The partly empty syndrome was that this still left more than 300 *disparate entities outside the* orders, with control limited to the interlocking share stakes. Vestiges of fog shrouded the asset base. And, of vital importance, how were the administrators *going to fund ongoing operations? Given the state of* Maxwell's empire, the banks would almost certainly refuse to lend funds to the satellite companies. Where would the working capital come from? The reality, which Talbot had spent days mulling over, was that the only way to ensure funds were available was for Arthur Andersen to guarantee them. Talbot had held *tentative talks with Roy Chapman, the firm's managing partner,* and the NatWest. Sunday saw a £5 million loan from the NatWest to the four administrators finally put in place, with the *arrangement countersigned by Chapman on behalf* of the firm's partners.

Momentary fears that, in the heat of Saturday's manoeuvres, the administrators had been put in charge of a company *that Maxwell had already sold,* proved unfounded. Late into Sunday and on into Monday, draft petitions were refined to fulfil the bargain struck in the judge's drawing room. In the space of a week, Talbot's team had expanded to more than 120, based in five countries. Information flowed into Tuch's intelligence operation — which became the centre of Maxwell's web — and out to the administrators. Talbot's decision to run the various administrations on a relatively autonomous basis was working, but linkage with the moonwalkers was imperative — if only to prevent a few Maxwellian "ten pounds" from disappearing into a crater.

The untouchables: tracing the funds

Unravelling the multibillion conundrum became a way of life, reveals **Melvyn Marckus**

Peter Tuch: project manager

A guardian of Globe House

Chris Currington and Leonie Grimes headed the untouchables team, an investigation unit of 25 people

JAMES MORGAN

Chris Currington and his deputy, Leonie Grimes, headed up Arthur Andersen's 25-strong investigation unit. Robert Maxwell's controversial use of pension funds and purchases of shares in the MCC and MGN "twins" had been intricately set up. Bankers, City advisers and auditors were unaware. It fell on the investigative team, comprising top managers and hand-picked support staff, to unravel the multibillion pound *transactions that criss-crossed* the "private" and "public" sides of Maxwell's empire.

A steep learning curve on the intricacies of UK and US insolvency law, and much else, was in store. Currington and his colleagues were to discover that being "on Maxwell" would transform their working lives: not for months but for years.

It was Currington's EC2 version of *The Untouchables* that felt the full force of the post-crash whirlwind that blew through Maxwell House. Interviews with directors collided with attempts to protect documents and secure assets. More "2.2 reports" had to be prepared for companies being piloted towards administration. Such reports required a diet of data.

Creditors had to be physically restrained from removing paintings, even light fittings. More serious was the possibility of a shredding party. Facts and figures were vulnerable to being slain by push button. Another influence on Maxwell House was a multifaceted investigation into Maxwell's controversial ways and means by the Serious Fraud Office. On the second day of the assignment, Friday December 6, 1991, the SFO turned up in force at *Maxwell House,* armed with search warrants that gave them the right to remove the records of London & Bishopsgate Group — which controlled Maxwell's fund management operations worldwide — and its subsidiaries. Solicitors acting for directors of London & Bishopsgate and other companies in Maxwell's private orbit, also sped to Holborn. Several lawyers attempted to exercise a veto over the SFO's black bagging of documents. This proved monumentally unsuccessful. By the end of the day, some 25 police, working in the manner of removal men, had methodically stripped the sixth floor of Maxwell House.

As the London & Bishopsgate files were deposited in vans, the thoughts of Currington and Grimes turned to the seventh floor, which housed the records of myriad other Maxwell "private-side" companies, many of which were not yet the subject of administration orders. These files were vital to the extension of the administrators' control over Maxwell's trading operations. They were also vital to the investigation.

Grimes recalls: "There we were, less than 36 hours into the job, faced with losing all the files. It was a nightmare. We couldn't function without them." Grimes pleaded with the police to leave the documents. The persuasive powers of this particular untouchable won the day: the contents of the seventh floor received a reprieve. Even so, the loss of the London & Bishopsgate documents had to be made good. A major photocopying exercise, carried out at the SFO's Elm Street HQ, started the next day.

Currington recalls how it took until just before Christmas to complete. This was the SFO's first visit to the investigators but not their last. As Grimes puts it: "The SFO's focus was on criminal prosecutions, ours was on the recovery of money. We were able to help them with the fund flows."

The discovery that certain *computer files had been de*stroyed caused serious concern, serving to fuel fears that other data was in danger. Nor *were the investigators'* anxieties allayed by the fact that the sixth and seventh floors were sandwiched between other aspects of the empire housed in Maxwell House that enjoyed unfettered access to the private companies' computer network. Hundreds of man-hours went into restoring computer records: pinpoints of light in the dark domain that Maxwell had ruled over. Other crucial documents were stored in the archives of various law firms. The untouchables found themselves competing with solicitors acting for third parties in an inner London paperchase. The papers had to be traced and copied. *Tip-offs, often anonymous,* proved invaluable. Demands for money, in exchange for information as to the whereabouts of caches of supposedly sensitive files, were not unusual. Such leads were followed up but no payments were made. Talbot's dictates on cost effectiveness permeated all units. Against this background, Talbot, the co-ordinators led by Peter Tuch and Currington's untouchables shared deep misgivings about security on the sixth and seventh floors of Maxwell House. Revelations that MCC was almost as deeply bugged as it was indebted, heightened such anxieties, as did word that Alan Katz's team, presiding over *Ma'ariv*, Israel's second bestselling newspaper, had found bugs crawling all *over the Tel Aviv Hilton.* Security men guarded the sixth and seventh floors on a 24-hour basis but, in Grimes's words: *"We still felt nervous."*

A move to Globe House, situated in Temple Place, close to Arthur Andersen's Surrey Street HQ, took place shortly after mid-December. Michael Stoney, the finance director of Maxwell's "private side", was retained at Globe, along with a quartet of ex-Maxwell employees. Currington recollects: "The unit worked in an open plan area in order to pool information. We found a special room for the Maxwell contingent. They were useful, particularly during the early stages of our learning curve."

William Rees-Mogg 16

All documents were transferred to the fourth-floor base (available at a cheap rent), where electronic security was installed to supplement round the clock guard vigils. The new home for Tuch's co-ordinating team and the investigators was regularly "swept" for bugs. Slowly, all files were scanned into a document image database to create a back-up to the secret paper mountain under guard by the Thames. Early estimates suggested that the pension fund deficit in Maxwell's private empire could amount to £300 million. The untouchables' task was to trace where the missing *money had gone and* retrieve it. Currington's unit was not investigating for the sake of investigation. Grimes *points out:* "This wasn't an academic exercise. Our task was to help maximise cash recovery." Early analysis indicated that the fund outflow involved three separate plays: share dealings, foreign exchange transactions and payments to various US entities.

It quickly emerged that Maxwell had conducted his major transactions through a *few key* companies such as Robert Maxwell Group, Headington Holdings, Bishopsgate Investment Trust and London & Bishopsgate Group. The untouchables initially focused their investigations on these companies. Contemporaneous documents were essential to *the probe. Hundreds of banks* were contacted in the quest for bank statements: external documents that came with the added value that they could be relied on. Currington recalls how eight companies alone held 83 separate bank accounts. According to Grimes: "The banks were very co-operative. They provided us with vast quantities of documents."

It was imperative to identify all the black holes as quickly as possible. Until Talbot fully understood the money flows, he could not be certain that funds were not being diverted into some inaccessible overseas haven. Talbot made no secret of his fears that cash might be disappearing from under the noses of the administrators. On the contrary, he *was exceedingly explicit about* such anxieties as he galvanised his senior managers.

As days blurred into nights, nerves frayed. *Tuch recalls* how "colourful language" echoed around Maxwell House, albeit not necessarily for the *first time. Grimes argues that* Talbot's bark was louder than his bite. "John knew he didn't have to push us. It was exciting, *there* was a tremendous atmosphere. Actually, the administrators worried if the girls went too long without sleep. They wanted to pack us off home but we insisted on staying. Usually we started at about 8am and finished around midnight." Tuch observes: "Whatever John said to the girls he certainly never tried to pack Chris or myself off home."

Currington recalls how, in the space of a week, the unit had developed a "good feel" for the scale of the loss from the pension coffers and *the* way in which the funds, along with cash from various other sources, had been dispersed. On December 12, Tal*bot issued* a carefully worded press release that revealed that some £130 million from Bishopsgate Investment Trust, *Robert Maxwell* Group and London & Bishopsgate Group had been used to fund purchases of MCC shares.

A *further £23 million* from other companies in the private empire had been used for the same purpose. This was the first time *the press* had learnt of the secret share purchases. Talbot's underlying warning — delivered during informal *press briefings* — was that there was *no* pot of gold. The missing millions had been used to fund trading losses or meet the "obligations of various overseas entities following the latter's acquisition of MCC shares." The Serious Fraud Office took its cue and, shortly after, announced its *investigation* into "arrangements made *to support* the price of MCC shares".

Hunt for the Missing Millions continues tomorrow

RESULTS AND STATISTICS

TODAY

Interims: Abacus Recruitment, Abtrust Scotland Investment Co, BI Group, GT Japan Investment Trust, Heritage Bathrooms, John Menzies, J Saville Gordon.
Finals: Creos International, London Scottish Bank.
Economic statistics: GDP (Q4 — preliminary).

TOMORROW

Interims: Colefax & Fowler, Daejan Holdings, Scottish National Trust, Surrey Group.
Finals: Central Motor Auctions, Derby Trust, Domino Printing Sciences, Everards Brewery, First Philippine Investment Trust, Masthead Insurance, Shandwick Group, Shani Group, Watson & Philip.
Economic statistics: M4 money supply (December — provisional), M4 lending to private sector (December), CBI monthly trends survey (January), details of gilt auction (January 30).

WEDNESDAY

Interims: Dunedin Japan Investment Trust, Dunton Group, Exmoor Dual Investment Trust, Media Business, Menvier-Swain, Murray Income Trust, Shield Group, W H Smith, Surrey Free Inns, Wiggins Group.
Finals: Prospect Industries.
Economic statistics: Non-EU trade (December).

THURSDAY

Interims: Barbour Index, Churchbury Estates, Goodhead Group, Jasmin, Unitech, John D Wood.
Finals: Lookers, Murray International Trust, Witan Investment Co.
Economic statistics: Turnover and orders (November).

FRIDAY

Interims: Aim Group, AromaScan, Caledonian Media, Rubicon Group, Stavert Zigomala.
Finals: Aukett Associates, Partridge Fine Arts.

COMPANIES

PHILIP PANGALOS

City braced for WH Smith setback

WH SMITH GROUP: The high street retailer, whose empire spans W H Smith newsagents, Waterstone's book stores, Our Price music shops and an interest in the Do It All do-it-yourself chain, will be this week's focus of attention when it unveils interim results on Wednesday.

The City eagerly awaits the first results presentation by Bill Cockburn, the former Post Office chief executive, who has taken over as W H Smith's chief executive to try to revitalise the group.

W HSmith has undertaken a big programme to revamp its stores, which will dent profits, as part of a policy to reverse declining sales after the end of the price-fixing Net Book Agreement and cut-price competition from supermarket chains selling magazines and books.

Interim profits will therefore be down, but attention will focus on trading over the important Christmas period, and current conditions and prospects. Trading by Do It All is likely to be disappointing as a dull housing market continues to depress demand in competitive conditions, but Our Price should have done well and Waterstone's should also turn in a solid performance.

Nick Bubb, retail analyst with Mees Pierson Securities, expects first-half pre-tax profits to fall to £38 million, before exceptional reorganisation charges, against £45 million last time. Mr Bubb expects a £20 million exceptional charge to drag bottom-line profits down to £18 million, but the interim dividend should remain 5.25p. Market forecasts range from £17 million to £25 million.

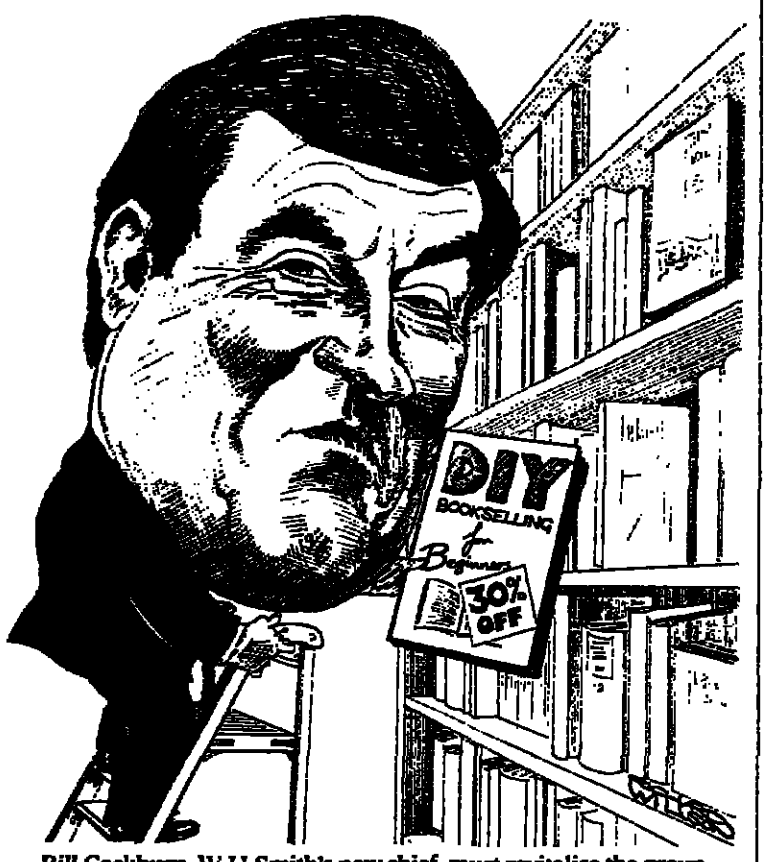
WATSON & PHILIP: Tomorrow's full-year results from the convenience store group, based in Dundee, should receive a boost from bumper sales of National Lottery tickets, which added £450,000 to first-half profits. BZW has pencilled in final pre-tax profits of £17 million, up from £14.2 million in the previous 12 months, with a dividend of 16.4p (15.3p) predicted. Market forecasts range from £17 million to £19 million.

MENVIER SWAIN: The emergency lighting and fire alarm group is expected to unveil lower first-half profits on Wednesday. City followers expect interim pre-tax profits to have dropped to about £4.6 million, from £5.2 million, although the extent of the fall will depend on rationalisation charges relating to last year's acquisition of the Scantronic security components business.

In spite of the expected slide in profits, Roger Broklebank, of Albert E Sharp, forecasts an interim dividend up to 1.9p (1.6p). He has pencilled in full-year profits of £12.6 million.

UNITECH: Strong demand for Unitech's core power supplies, fuelled by healthy exports and high operational gearing, should help the electronic components and power supplies group to a solid advance on Thursday. Analysts are likely to concentrate on the performance of Nemic-Lambda, the Japanese subsidiary, and effects of currency movements. NatWest Securities expects strong growth in semi-conductor demand to help interim pre-tax profits to £21 million (£15.8 million). A dividend of 2.96p (2.57p) is forecast.

DOMINO PRINTING SCIENCES: Tomorrow's full-year figures from the inkjet printer maker will bear the scars of printhead problems and under-performing acquisitions. Mark Paddon, of NatWest Securities, forecasts a drop in final pre-tax profits to £5.5 million (£13 million), but an improved dividend of 10.1p (9.6p) is predicted.



Bill Cockburn, W H Smith's new chief, must revitalise the group

Standard and NatWest reject takeover talk

A rise in Standard Chartered's share price last week fuelled rumours that the bank may be a bid target. However reports that NatWest was the likely bidder were not being given much credence by the City.

A 5 per cent rise in the shares to 618p on Friday was attributed to four positive analysts' reports on Standard Chartered's prospects. Malcolm Williamson, Standard's chief executive, said in a staff note in November that the board saw the future of Standard Chartered as an independent company.

The rumours do not appear to fit in with NatWest's recent stated objectives to develop the bank's investment banking, private banking and UK retail franchise operations. Both banks dismissed the rumours as "market speculation".

Inquiry to report

The critical debate on how people can ensure an adequate income in retirement will take centre stage tomorrow when a special independent panel publishes the results of its investigation and key recommendations. The inquiry, chaired by Sir John Anson, was set up in 1994 by the National Association of Pension Funds to consider ways in which pensions can be funded outside of the state.

Carlton denial

Carlton Communications, the ITV company, has denied that it is a leading contender for the consumer books division of Reed Elsevier, the Anglo-Dutch publishing group. Final bids for the division, which include children's, illustrated, reference and trade books, are due on Friday and the price is thought to be about £150 million.

Recovery peaks

The recovery in British corporate profits has already peaked — at only one third of the level achieved before the recession — according to a corporate health check by the CCN Group, based on the accounts of the top 1,000 companies.

SUNDAY TIPS

The Sunday Times: Buy Heritage Bathrooms, Vardon, Costain. *The Sunday Telegraph:* Buy HTV, Darby, Medeva, Surrey. *Independent on Sunday:* Buy Tadpole, Vega, Courtauld, Sherwood, Dewhirst. *The Observer:* Buy British Steel, Berkeley, Beazer, Crest Nicholson, Tay.

Main focus is on GDP figures for fourth quarter

ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

The most keenly awaited British economic indicator this week comes today with provisional figures for fourth-quarter gross domestic product. MMS International is forecasting a rise of 0.4 per cent, which would give a year-on-year growth rate of 1.8 per cent. Industrial production, which accounts for about one-third of total GDP, grew only 0.2 per cent in the three months to November and December is unlikely to have seen a marked resurgence. This leaves the GDP figures very dependent on the services sector to bolster growth.

The City will be looking carefully at this release, given some debate about whether last week's quarter point cut in interest rates was justified. Tomorrow's figures on lending, including mortgages, are also of interest in this context. Building society net new commitments are expected to be somwehat weaker in December but overall lending by the private sector is expected to be healthier.

The CBI's monthly and quarterly trends surveys covering January are released this week. The MMS consensus forecast is for a deficit of £825 million compared with £496 million in November. New construction orders are also published. The broad focus of the financial markets this week will be any results or comments emerging from Saturday's Group of Seven meeting or today's meeting of European Union finance ministers, particularly any comment on the dollar and mark exchange rate and about interest rate prospects. European interest rates are the main issue — many traders are betting on another significant fall in the German repurchase rate on Wednesday.

JANET BUSH

ALTERNATIVE INVESTMENT MARKET

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (pence)	Wkly +/−	Yld %	P/E
16.00	AMCO Corp	112	+ 3	5.0	12.3
1.21	Abacus Recruit	23	+ 5	...	...
18.40	A de Gruchy	125	...	5.6	10.4
8.48	African Gold	8¼	− ¼	...	...
4.83	Albemarle & Bd	13	...	...	...
10.50	Alpha Omikron	20	− 3	...	...
39.20	Ann St Brewery	410	+ 5	5.3	12.3
5.30	Ann St Cv Pf	895	+ 10	8.9	...
74.60	Antonov	105	+ 4	...	...
11.70	Ask Central	73	...	...	...
1.08	Athelney Trust	60	...	...	...
4.62	Baris Hldgs	18	+ 1	...	...
4.03	Belcanto	45	...	...	...
0.96	Bowness Leis	140	− 5	...	...
	Bown Leis Cv Pf	70	...	...	...
5.02	Brancote Hdgs	50	...	...	...
37.20	Brockbank	315	...	2.5	31.5
0.94	CCI Hldgs	118	...	...	...
0.13	CCI Founder Shs	110	...	...	...
2.86	Cafe Inns	100	+ 5	2.5	8.2
8.52	Caledonian Tst	75	...	...	9.1
14.20	Card Clear	63	− 3	...	...
3.72	Cassidy Bros	68	− 2	5.6	9.6
1.87	Cavendish W F	43	...	...	21.8
4.99	Celebrated Group	17	− 1	...	...
17.50	Celtic	6750	+200	...	...
	Celtic Pf Shs	6750	+200	...	...
15.00	Cl Comms(TV)	111	+ 2	2.7	14.3
6.61	Chartwell Intl	62	...	...	...
13.10	ClubPartners	31	...	...	...
12.20	Com de Prt Fin	510	...	...	...
7.99	Conister Tst	40	...	2.5	17.1
11.10	Country Gdns	60	− 3	2.5	12.4
2.57	Cntry Gdns Pf	70	− 3	9.5	...
36.60	Creos Intl	102	...	...	...
14.60	Crown Products	55	+ 2	...	...
12.20	DBS Management	180	− 3	4.2	7.3
	Dalkeith Inns	36	...	...	...
3.58	David Glass	66	...	5.5	9.4
50.60	Dawson Hdgs	1105	+ 95	3.5	...
3.21	Dean Corp	11	...	...	64.3
13.70	Dmatek	73	...	...	...
116.40	Electrophoretics Intl	180	− 8	...	...
5.62	Euro Sales Fn	125	...	...	...
	Farfalle	340	...	...	...
2.24	Finl Pubis	95	+ 5	...	...
24.20	Firecrest	145	+ 10	...	63.1
6.12	Floral St	263	...	0.5	...
5.51	Flomerics	215	+ 23	...	19.5
15.90	Formscan	151	+ 8	1.7	19.6
4.65	Furlong Homes	93	...	3.2	5.0
25.30	Gander Hdgs	8¾	− ¼	...	74.7
4.50	Greenhills	15	− 1	...	...
32.40	Gulton	145	...	3.4	13.1
4.06	Hansom	40	− 1	...	...
59.00	Hiscox Ded Ins	130	...	0.3	...
10.90	Indpt Radio	109	− 3	...	...
14.70	Inner Workings	88	...	...	...
21.10	Intl Greetings	503	...	...	...
3.71	Jasmin	91	...	...	...
18.20	Jennings Bros	280	− 5	2.8	20.1
43.50	KS Biomedix	115	...	...	...
25.70	Lancashire Enterprises	142	+ 2	3.6	...
14.30	Lawrence	235	...	0.8	...
53.70	Lawrie Group	2750	...	3.2	14.0
46.80	Le Riches Strs	282	+ 2	6.8	27.6
	Lifehome As Ten	95	...	...	...
19.40	Lon Fiduciary	2	− ¼	...	...
1.63	London Town	65	− 5	...	...
11.70	Lorien Grp	205	...	...	...
10.60	Manx & O'seas	18	− 2	...	...
44.80	Megalomedia	104	+ 5	...	...
	Megalomedia Wts	89	...	...	...
5.57	Meltek	88	...	...	39.3
225.00	Memory Corp	380	− 20	..	...
6.04	Metrodome Films	21	...	...	...
12.40	Moorepay	163	+ 1½	3.4	...
9.08	Mountcashel	0¼	...	...	...
19.60	MultiMedia	68	...	...	...
22.90	NWF Grp	305	...	2.7	14.7
	Nash (Wm)	210	+ 30	3.9	...
8.48	Neill Clerk	335	...	2.2	16.2
5.71	Neilson Cobbold	208	...	2.3	...
	Norcity II	65	...	...	..
	Norhomes	63	...	...	...
8.71	Nthn Petlm	76	+ 1	...	...
0.13	Nthn Petlm Wrts	8	...	...	...
	Nthmb Res Prps	70	...	...	...
17.60	Nursing Home	114	+ 1	1.3	32.8
9.90	Old English Pub	90	...	2.8	...
5.43	Omnicare	88	...	2.1	14.6
11.80	Omnimedia	66	+ 3	...	...
16.00	Pacific Media	1½	+ ¼	...	...
	Pacific Med Pf	45	+ 2	...	...
8.95	Pan Andean Res	21¾	+ 1¼	...	...
4.66	Park Ests(Lv)	195	...	...	...
96.60	Pet City	398	− 15	...	...
26.20	Polymasc Pharms	131	...	...	...
3.62	Preston Nth E	400	...	...	...
1.07	Revelation Piccadilly	100	...	...	...
11.20	Riceman Insce	17	...	...	...
3.15	Rushmere Wynne	3½	...	...	...
0.07	Rush Wyn Wrts	0¾	...	...	...
12.50	SCS Satellite	121	− 2	...	...
4.45	Scotswood Inds	20	...	6.2	60.8
	Scott Pride	38	...	...	...
13.00	Scruttons	270	...	8.0	11.0
	Silkbarn	3	...	...	...
51.60	SkyePharma	7¾	− ¾	...	...
124.70	Southern News	529	+ 3	3.7	14.8
	Southern Vectis	51	...	...	...
67.40	Stanford Rook	385	+ 37	...	...
13.60	Surrey Fr Inns	135	+ 10	1.7	15.9
45.80	TRACKER Netwk	865	− 50	...	...
5.36	Tele Cred Eur	53	+ 5	...	...
	Tele Cred Wrts	38	+ 2	...	...
13.40	Toad	108	− 8	...	...
	Trinity Care	180	...	1.0	...
	Trinity Care Pf	165	...	...	...
198.50	Trocadero	47	...	...	...
	Univent	40	...	...	...
8.15	Utd Auctions	458	...	1.1	...
	VDC	605	...	...	...
35.70	Versailles Grp	13½	...	...	22.0
4.05	Viewinn	135	...	...	...
	Voss	232	− 3	...	...
	Wedderburn Secs	12	− 1	...	...
	Wedd Secs Wrnts	5	...	...	...
4.90	Western Selectn	14	− 1	...	55.7
2.13	Westmount Engy	26	...	...	..
5.65	W'chester M Md	51	− 4	...	...
	Wynnstay Props	145	...	...	...
26.70	Zergo	290	...	...	...

Stanford Rook stands out in a quiet week

By Philip Pangalos

IT WAS a week of consolidation for the Alternative Investment Market for smaller and growing companies.

In a relatively quiet week, there was good demand for Stanford Rook Holdings, the pharmaceutical group, which benefited from a reiterated buy recommendation from Nomura, the Japanese securities house, with talk that another Japanese house may put out a buy recommendation. There was interest in Trocadero, the leisure complex spun off by Burford Holdings, and Firecrest, with talk that the advertising to promotions group will shortly announce another deal. Firecrest has landed the exclusive UK rights to market and distribute the DigiPhone software package, which lets Internet users telephone anywhere in the world for the price of a local call.

David Abrahams, a dealer with Winterflood Securities, a market-maker in all AIM-listed stocks, remains optimistic on prospects for AIM.

The number of companies traded on it has grown to 124. Capitalisation stood at £2.43 billion and money raised at £113 million. Ballynatray, the property company, should see a small premium to a 6p placing price when it starts trading tomorrow.

CHANGE ON WEEK

THE POUND

US dollar
1.5105 (-0.0367)
German mark
2.2351 (+0.0060)
Exchange index
82.8 (-0.5)
Bank of England official close (4pm)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 share
2762.1 (+41.2)
FT-SE 100
3748.4 (+91.1)
New York Dow Jones
5184.68 (+123.56)
Tokyo Nikkei Avge
20365.76 (+78.34)

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.14	1.98
Austria Sch	16.74	15.24
Belgium Fr	48.97	44.67
Canada $	2.170	2.010
Cyprus Cyp£ .	0.746	0.691
Denmark Kr ...	9.27	8.47
Finland Mkk ...	7.36	6.71
France Fr	8.06	7.41
Germany Dm .	2.39	2.18
Greece Dr	388.00	363.00
Hong Kong $	12.35	11.35
Ireland Pt	1.02	0.94
Israel Shk	5.1300	4.4800
Italy Lira	2505.00	2350.00
Japan Yen	174.10	158.10
Malta	0.588	0.533
Netherlds Gld	2.659	2.429
New Zealand $	2.43	2.21
Norway Kr	10.39	9.59
Portugal Esc ..	242.50	224.00
S Africa Rd	ref.	5.28
Spain Pta	195.50	182.50
Sweden Kr	10.80	10.00
Switzerland Fr	1.94	1.76
Turkey Lira	refer	87411.0
USA $	1.611	1.481

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank. Different rates apply to traveller's cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

informative:

First Direct Base Rate

With effect from 18 January 1996, First Direct Base Rate has been reduced by 0.25% to **6.25%**

HomeOwner Reserve

With effect from 18 January 1996, the HomeOwner Reserve rate has been reduced by 0.25% to 12.50% p.a. **(APR 13.0%)**

first direct

First Direct is a division of Midland Bank plc *Member* HSBC Group

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 24

MANTICORE

(b) A fabulous monster, related the the chimera, having the body of a lion, porcupine's quills, and the tail or sting of a scorpion. A corrupt reading from Aristotle, where the better manuscripts have *martichoras*, from the Old Persian for a man-eater. "The Beast Manticora which is of a red colour, and hath the head of a man lancing out sharpe prickles from behind."

LIE-BY

(a) A concubine, mistress or lover. Dialect. *Somerset Word-Book*, 1886: "Why, her wad'n never no better'n Squire xxxx's lie-by, and now her's anybody's."

LEUDES

(a) In the Frankish kingdoms, a vassal or feudatory, medieval Latinisation of the Old High German *liudi*. "The king, attended by some of his leudes, armed only with their swords, entered."

MUTCHKIN

(c) A measure of capacity for liquids (or for dry substances of a powdery or granular character); the fourth part of the old Scots pint, or about three-quarters of an imperial pint. From the Dutch diminutive *mutsje*. Note the linguistic connection between Scottish and Dutch, potent trading nations across the North Sea, in golfing and other terms. Walter Scott, *Waverley*, 1814: "He whistled the Bob of Dumblain, under the influence of half a mutchkin of brandy."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1 Qd4! is decisive, as if 1 ... Kh6 2 Qg7+ wins.

Lloyds Bank Interest Rates for Business Customers

LLOYDS BANK BASE RATE

Effective from 18 January 1996	6.25% per annum

LOANS

	% Per Month	Eqv. Annual Rate %
Business Loan Standard and Farm Business Loan Standard	0.98	11.76
Business Loan Preferential and Farm Business Loan Preferential	0.81	9.72
Small Business Loan Standard	1.08	12.96 (APR 13.7)*
Small Business Loan and Farm Small Business Loan	0.98	11.76 (APR 12.4)*

*The APR does not take into account any additional charges (eg arrangement fees/securities charges/monthly fees) which may be applicable.

OVERDRAFTS

Band	% Per Month	Eqv. Annual Rate %
A (and Standard)	0.95	11.40
B	0.86	10.32
C	0.78	9.36
Unauthorised	2.00	24.00

MORTGAGES

Band	% Per Month	Eqv. Annual Rate %
A	0.98	11.76
B and C	0.81	9.72

INTEREST EARNING ACCOUNTS

Premier Interest Account†	Gross Rate %	Gross CAR %
£250,000+	5.10	5.22
£100,000+	4.80	4.91
£ 25,000+	4.40	4.49
£ 10,000+	4.10	4.18

†No interest is paid on balances below £10,000

Business Reserve Account	Gross Rate %	Gross CAR %
£10,000+	4.00	4.06
Below £10,000	3.80	3.85

Business Call Account	Gross Rate %	Gross CAR %
£250,000+	3.65	3.71
£ 50,000+	3.40	3.45
£ 10,000+	3.20	3.25
£ 1,000+	2.90	2.94
Below £1,000	2.50	2.53

Clients Call Account	Half Yearly Option		Monthly Option	
	Gross Rate %	Gross CAR %	Gross Rate %	Gross CAR %
£1,000,000+	4.35	4.40	4.31	4.40
£ 100,000+	4.15	4.19	4.11	4.19
£ 10,000+	3.65	3.68	3.62	3.68
£ 2,500+	3.10	3.12	3.08	3.12
Below £2,500	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00

Deposit Account	Half Yearly Option		Monthly Option	
	Gross Rate %	Gross CAR %	Gross Rate %	Gross CAR %
£1+	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25

Interest rates may vary from time to time.
This notice lists current rates.
Gross Rate – the annual interest rate.
Gross CAR – compounded annual rate when full monthly, quarterly or half-yearly interest remains invested.
Business Call Account and Premier Interest Account assume interest paid monthly.
Business Reserve Account assumes interest paid quarterly.

These rates of interest apply with effect from 22 January 1996

Lloyds Bank Plc, which is regulated by the Personal Investment Authority and IMRO, represents only the Lloyds Bank Marketing Group for life assurance, pensions and unit trust business.

Lloyds Bank

THE THOROUGHBRED BANK.

Lloyds Bank Plc, 71 Lombard Street, London EC3P 3BS

Evervo

2

These tax loopholes should be shut today

GRAHAM SEARJEANT

During the past fortnight, we have lost three Tornado aircraft, though thankfully not their infinitely more valuable pilots. Even so, it has cost taxpayers roughly £75 million in defence equipment we need to replace. Tomorrow, taxpayers are quite likely to be presented with another unexpected bill, but this time an avoidable one. In this case, taxpayers would be asked to contribute *perhaps £40 million to the* cost of Granada buying the Forte group.

How do taxpayers come into this wholly private matter? Via a tax loophole that should have been shut in Kenneth Clarke's November Budget but which, by gross negligence in caring for the public's money, the Chancellor failed to address.

Last year, merchant bankers discovered a splendid takeover wheeze. If their clients paid part of the bid price by making a huge special dividend from the bid-for company, just after they gained control, they could boost the value of the bid for pension funds and others who can reclaim tax deducted from the net dividend. This is clearly unfair to other shareholders, something the City Takeover Panel has pusillanimously failed to deal with. Most of all, it is outrageous that taxpayers should be asked to help to fund takeover bids so blatantly. These state grants helped to bribe gross funds to back a series of bids for electricity monopolies and Lloyds Bank's merger with TSB. Mr Clarke was warned of this scandal in these columns ahead of the Budget, but he chose to do nothing about it.

Granada's final bid for Forte *includes a £440 million special* dividend. The cash contribution from taxpayers would depend on how many Forte shares are held by gross funds, but would probably be at least £40 million. Although classed as a tax rebate, this would really be cash public spending. It would be enough to replace at least one Tornado with plenty spare for hospital beds to ensure that badly hurt pilots, like other injured citizens, could readily find treatment.

In the event, Granada may have been too clever. It has offered an alternative to the dividend that may be more tax-efficient for shareholders who cannot claim the imputed tax back. If the Inland Revenue cried foul, and Granada's advisers have gone too far, assenting shareholders *might be in for a disappointment*, or at least a protracted dispute.

In any case, this state takeover grant is not the only money taxpayers would lose from the financial engineering Granada has planned. Granada, it should be said, is only following the common practice of other big firms that use top City accountants and lawyers. In its defence against the Granada bid, Forte proposes disposing of at least £1.5 billion of assets and spending *£800 million to bolster its share* price. Its advisers have doubtless been hard at work trying to deny the Exchequer much from this exercise.

Granada is even more ambitious. *It wants to sell the bulk of the £3.8* billion Grosvenor House to Little Chef empire it seeks to buy. Forte itself, aiming to undermine the bid, doubted that Granada could realise something like £1.1 billion in capital gains on hotels bought many years ago without paying its share to the public purse. But Granada has explained its claim that "the tax consequences of the planned disposals will be insignificant". Rather than absorb Forte, it would extract the assets it wanted, then sell the shrunken company to third parties, claiming it had made no capital gain on the amount it paid for Forte plc. In the company's words, it would "utilise Granada's substantial tax cost base in Forte". If that does not work, it has a couple of other methods to achieve the same end.

Taxpayers would not actually hand this money to Granada shareholders. But they would lose tax they thought would be due if a company chooses to realise capital gains by selling assets. The £400 million that taxpayers *might expect to receive* would be a windfall, just as the loss of three Tornados is an unforeseen cost. When public finances are tight, taxpayers cannot afford to lose £400 *million*. That is enough to build and equip two state-of-the-art hospitals and run them for a year or two. It could put thousands of extra students right through university, or pay for new playing fields all over the country, or provide a modest tax rebate to every family in the land.

In an ideal world, there would be no taxes on productive sectors. The economy would run much more efficiently if business decisions were no longer distorted by their tax impact. In the real world, the state diverts 40p per pound of income and output, affecting the daily decisions of rich and poor. There is no reason why business should not pay its whack as Parliament intended.

Fortunately, it is not too late for the Chancellor to save other taxpayers more than £400 million if Granada buys Forte, or a large but lesser sum if Forte put its defence plan into action. The Finance Bill is wending its way through Parliament. It can be amended, though preferably not retrospectively. In the first instance, all the Chancellor needs to do is stand up and say he will introduce amendments to remove, with immediate effect, the sham of special "dividends" as currency for takeovers. He should also remove the tax advantages of special dividends that are, by virtue of size, capital payments, by no *longer allowing the imputed* dividend tax to be offset against corporation tax. He should declare that he will close the specific capital gains tax loopholes Granada hopes to employ and make sure officials find out what Forte is up to as well.

If Mr Clarke fails to act, he will give the green light for City financial engineers to shift billions more onto the burden borne by other taxpayers. If he wants to save the £400 million at stake in the Forte case, he should act by 1pm tomorrow.

RADIO CHOICE

A festival of arty twaddle

The Maxton Festival. *Radio 3, 8.50pm.*

As a send-up of the pretentious bunkum some self-styled art experts *spout, I do not think there* has been anything like this since Peter Sellers and Irene Handl recorded their merciless LP parody of BBC Radio's *The Critics*. Chris Miller has scripted these short reports from a gloriously improbable arts festival. Presenter Hugh Walters deserves an award for maintaining his po-face while having to inquire into so much surreal gibberish. The topics include the transcendental significance of *shards of hand-thrown mugs*, replicated tomatoes that are not for eating but for being seduced by, and a monologue about an invoice, performed in front of a non-existent audience.

The Monday Play: Gladiators. *Radio 4, 7.45pm.*

Nick Pullin's new play tugged me in all directions, sometimes at one and the same time. I had not realised comedy had so many hands. But there is a moment towards the end of the play when I thought the forces of comedy were going to hand me over to dealers in bloody murder. Nicholas Boulton plays the husband who, kicked out by his *wife (Jennifer Scott-Malden), joins the wedding* celebrations of his Dad (Christian Rodska) and brand-new wife (Karen Ford). Eventually, yet another arm — the long limb of coincidence — swings into action. Pullin has yet to write a comedy that follows a path that has been well trodden by others.

Peter Davalle

RADIO 1

FM Stereo **4.00am** Clive Warren **6.30** Chris Evans **9.00** Simon Mayo **12.00** Lisa I'Anson, including **12.30-12.45pm** Newsbeat **2.00** Nicky Campbell **4.00** Mark Goodier, including at **5.30-5.45** Newsbeat, and at **6.15** The Net **7.00** Evening Session **9.00** In Concert **10.00** Mark Radcliffe **Midnight** Wendy Lloyd

RADIO 2

FM Stereo. **6.00am** Martin Kelner **7.30** Wake Up to Wogan **9.30** Ken Bruce, incl at **10.00** Pick of the Hits **11.30** Jimmy Young **2.00pm** Debbie Thrower **3.30** Ed Stewart **5.05** John Dunn **7.00** Hubert Gregg *7.30 Malcolm Laycock* with Dance Band Days, and at **8.00** Big Band Era **8.30** Big Band Special **9.00** Hmphrey Lyttelton **10.00** Vaudeville Red-Hot and Blue (3/4) **10.30** The Jamesons **12.05am** Digby Fairweather **1.00** Steve Madden **3.00** Alex Lester

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morning Reports **6.00** The Breakfast Programme **8.35** The Magazine **12.00** Midday with Mair, incl at **12.34pm** Moneycheck **1.15** Entertainment News **2.05** Ruscoe on Five, incl at **2.35** Actuality **3.45** Entertainment News **4.00** John Inverdale Nationwide **5.45** Entertainment News **7.00** News Extra **7.35** Great Scots! Dave Mackay **8.00** The Monday Match. West Ham v *Manchester United in the FA Premiership* **10.05** News Talk **11.00** Night Extra, incl at **11.15** The Financial World Tonight **12.05am** The Other Side of Midnight **2.05** Up All Night

TALK RADIO

6.00am Best of Bates **7.00** Moz Dee/Jonny Gould **10.00** Best of King **12.00** Nancy Roberts **3.00** Best of Boyd **5.00** Best of Raeburn **6.00** Mike Read's Pop Quiz **7.00** Sean Bolger **10.00** Gary *Jacobs 1.00-6.00am Ian Collins*

WORLD SERVICE

All times in **GMT** **5.00am** Newsday **5.30** Europe **6.00** Newsday **6.30** Europe **7.00** News **7.15** *Frenchman's Creek* **7.30** The Vintage Chart **8.00** News **8.10** Faith **8.15** The Greenfield Collection **9.00** News in German **9.15** Anything Goes **9.45** Sport **10.00** Newsdesk **10.30** BBC English **10.45** *Frenchman's Creek* **11.00** Newsdesk **11.30** Omnibus **12.00** News **12.05pm** Business **12.15** Britain Today **12.30** The Story of Western Music **1.00** Newshour **2.00** News **2.05** Outlook **2.30** John Peel **3.00** News in German **3.15** Concert Hall **4.00** News **4.15** The World Today **4.30** News in German **5.00** Europe Today **5.30** Business **5.45** Sport *6.00 Newsdesk 6.30 News in German* **7.00** News **7.01** Outlook **7.25** Words of Faith **7.30** Multitrack: Hit List **8.00** Newshour **9.00** News **9.05** World Business Report **9.15** Britain Today **9.30** Omnibus **10.00** Newsdesk **10.30** The World Today **10.45** Sport **11.00** News **11.10** Take Five **11.15** Ed Stewart **11.45** Development 96 **Midnight** Newsdesk **12.30am** Folk Routes **12.45** Britain Today **1.00** News **1.10** Press Review **1.15** Man, Machine and Music **1.45** Health **2.00** Newsday **2.30** Screenplay **3.00** World News **3.15** Sport **3.30** John Peel **4.00** Newsdesk **4.30** Europe

CLASSIC FM

4.00am Mark Griffiths **6.00** Nick Bailey **9.00** Henry Kelly **12.00** Susannah *Simons 2.00pm Concerto* **3.00** Jamie Crick **6.00** Newsnight **6.30** Sonata **7.00** Ken Russell's Movie Classics (4/13) **8.00** Evening Concert to mark the launch of Classic FM's North Wales coverage **10.00** Michael Mappin **1.00am** Mel Cooper

VIRGIN RADIO

6.00am Russ 'n' Jono **9.00** Richard Skinner **12.00** Graham Dene **4.00pm** Nicky Horne **7.30** Paul Coyte **10.00** *Mark Forrest 2.00-6.00am Robin Banks*

RADIO 3

6.00am On Air, with Andrew McGregor. Delius (*Winter Landscape, North Country* Sketches); Strauss (An Alpine Symphony); Taverner (O splendor gloriae); Ravel (La valse); **8.05** Marais (La sonnerie du Ste-Geneviève du Mont de Paris); Mozart (Sextet in E flat)

9.00 Morning Collection with Paul Gambaccini

10.00 Musical Encounters, with Stephanie Hughes. Bach (Fugue in G, Prelude and Fugue); Korngold (Suite, The Snowman); **10.15** *Artist of the Week*: Benny Goodman, clarinet. Stravinsky (Ebony Concerto); **10.45** Strauss (Hymne); Casella (Paganiniana); Grieg (Symphonic Dances)

12.00 Composer of the Week. Sergei Prokofiev (The Prodigal Son, excerpts, Six Pieces, excerpts; La pas d'acier, excerpt; Russian Overture)

1.00pm BBC Lunchtime Concert, live from St John's, Smith Square, London. City of London Sinfonia under Andrew Watkinson, violin. Bach (Brandenburg Concerto No 6 in B flat); Hindemith (*Five Pieces*); Bach (Brandenburg Concerto No 2 in F)

2.00 Schools. The Song Tree **2.15** Storybox **2.25** Let's Move **2.45** First Steps in Drama

3.00 The BBC Orchestras. BBC Philharmonic under Yan Pascal Tortelier performs Dvořák (Cello Concerto in B minor: Tim Hugh) (r)

3.45 The Organ: Musical Instrument or Agent of God? Christopher Bowers-Broadbent begins a journey through 20th-century French *music (1/3)*

4.30 Misterioso. Ian Carr presents the second of six programmes about the pianist and composer Thelonious Monk

5.00 The Music Machine: Binary Form. Tommy Pearson presents the first of five programmes on musical forms

5.15 In Tune, presented by Andrew Green

7.30 Charles Ives Weekend London Sinfonietta under Oliver Knussen performs Charles Ives (Scherzo, Over the Pavements; Tone Road Nos 1 and 3; Scherzo, All the Way Round and Back; *Theatre Orchestra Set*, The Gong on the Hook and Ladder; Three Places in New England; Four Ragtime Dances)

8.50 The Maxton Festival. See Choice

9.10 Charles Ives Weekend In the final concert, Thomas Hampson, baritone, Dawn Upshaw, soprano, Craig Rutenberg, piano, perform songs chosen by Thomas Hampson

10.45 Mixing It. Mark Russell and Robert Sandall present a session from the guitarist Elliott Sharp

11.30-12.30am Ensemble. Per Enoksson, violin, Kathryn Stott, piano, perform Fauré (Berceuse); Ysaÿe (Rêve d'enfant, Berceuse); Busoni (Violin Sonata No 2); Saint-Saëns (Havanaise)

1.00-2.00 Night School. Letterbox **1.20** Singing Together

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping Forecast (**LW** only) **6.00** News Briefing, weather **6.10** Farming Today **6.25** Prayer for the Day **6.30** Today, incl **6.30**, **7.00**, **7.30**, **8.00**, **8.30** News **7.25**, **8.25** Sports News **7.45** Thought for the Day **8.40** Letters from Over Here (3/6) **8.58** Weather

9.00 News 9.05 Start the Week, presented by Melvyn Bragg and Jane Thynne. With Heather Couper, David Rose, Professor Norman Stone and Geoff Mulgan

10.00-10.30 News; With Great Pleasure (*FM only*). Harold Evans, editor and publisher, presents his favourite journalism, fiction, and poetry

10.00 Daily Service (LW only), from St Paul's in the Jewellry, Birmingham

10.15 This Sceptr'd Isle (LW only)

10.30 Woman's Hour, introduced by Jenni Murray. Serial: *Mother of Pearl* (3/12)

11.30 Money Box Live: 0171-580 4444

12.00 News; You and Yours

12.25pm No Job Too Small. Stuart Maconie presents the minutiae magazine **12.55** Weather

1.00 The World at One, with Nick Clarke

1.40 The Archers (r) **1.55** Shipping Forecast

2.00 News; Making Up, by David Goodland. Ronald Pickup plays Darcy White, a drag queen whose act is in need of a little inspiration (r)

3.00 The Afternoon Shift, with Laurie Taylor

4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope begins a week-long look at pub theatre and Lynne Walker visits an exhibition of young British craftsmen and women at the building designed for Contemporary Applied Arts

4.45 Short Story: A Trip to Tortugero, by John Latham. Read by Ian Masters

5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping Forecast **5.55** Weather

6.00 Six O'Clock News 6.30 Just a Minute (*r*)

7.00 News 7.05 The Archers

7.20 The Food Programme, with Derek Cooper (r)

7.45 The Monday Play: Gladiators. See Choice

9.00 Houseproud in Zero G. A *look at the domestic life of* space travellers

9.30 Kaleidoscope on pub theatre (r) **9.59** Weather

10.00 The World Tonight, with Robin Lustig

10.45 A Book at Bedtime: Love in the Time of Cholera, by Gabriel García Márquez. Read by Robert Powell (6/15)

11.00-11.30 A Man for All Music (**FM** only) André Previn, in conversation with June Knox-Mawer, talks about his love of English music and about his marriage to Mia Farrow (3/4)

11.00 Education Matters (**LW** only) presented by Judy Merry

11.30-12.00 The Water Gypsies (*FM only*), by A.P. Herbert, dramatised by Nick McCarty With Amanda Root and Siriol Jenkins (4/6) (r)

11.30 Today in Parliament (**LW** only)

12.00 News, incl **12.27am** Weather

12.30 The Late Book: The Drowned World, by J.G. Ballard. Read by Nicholas Farrell (1/10)

12.48 Shipping Forecast **1.00 As World Service**

FREQUENCY GUIDE. RADIO 1. FM 97.6-99.8. **RADIO 2.** FM 88.0-90.2. **RADIO 3.** FM 90.2-92.4. **RADIO 4.** FM 92.4-94.6; LW 198; MW 720. **RADIO 5 LIVE.** MW 693, 909. **WORLD SERVICE.** MW 648; LW 198 (12.45-5.55am). **CLASSIC FM.** FM 100-102. **VIRGIN RADIO.** FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. **TALK RADIO UK.** MW 1053, 1089. **Television and radio listings compiled by Peter Dear, Gillian Maxey, Rosemary Smith and Susan Thomson**

THE TIMES

CITY DIARY

Artist at the top of his profession

IF, on a Sunday, you've ever *seen a chap letting himself* into the Lloyd's building in the City and thought "what a hard working guy that is", you may have seen artist John Wonnacott.

The man who has been commissioned by the National Portrait Gallery to paint John Major has been entrusted with the keys to Lloyd's in order that he may gain a bird's-eye view of City landmarks.

Over the past three years, Wonnacott has painted three major oils on fibreboard of views from Lloyd's. The final painting is to be a night scene looking towards St Paul's. Agnews of Old Bond Street is offering the set for £100,000, but will consider splitting the paintings.

Hamming it up

LAST autumn, Fleming Investment Management enraged its female staff with a pension advertisement depicting a string of 1920 bathing beauties with bags on their heads. Then Flemings tried to restore the balance with an advert showing muscle-*bound males in swimming* trunks. Now, for an advert marketing its new money purchase pension service, Flemings has turned to pigs — showing them with their bottoms in the air and heads in the trough. "You'll never find us bringing up the rear in a money purchase beauty parade", the headline in January's *Pensions World* grunts.

All-rounder

SIR ROY WATTS, late chief executive of British Airways and chairman of Thames Water, had as good a definition of the jobs of directors and executives as any, now recorded in a *memoir* edited by his widow Jean and published by Images. "The role of management is to maximise within a given environment. The role of the board is to change the environment to the benefit of the company." His views on one-day cricket were more controversial. The former Yorkshire league bowler insisted that only if draws were allowed would bowling improve. Ray Illingworth would doubtless agree.

In the hot seat

A ONE-DAY conference has been organised in London in March to help companies to cope with public relations disasters. It is titled "Crisis management". And who should we find among the speakers? One John Noulton, director of public affairs at Eurotunnel, the owner and operator of the fixed link between Britain and France. His brief: to explain how the company would handle the media if there were to be a fire in the tunnel. Who could possibly know more about PR firefighting?

COLIN CAMPBELL

Sarah Bagnall examines a shopping concept still in its infancy

Hopes of mall contentment

As price-conscious shoppers across the country do battle in the high streets for the bargain that sets their pulses racing, Britain's nine factory shopping malls are eerily quiet.

This is not because the new-fangled shopping concepts are a dismal failure. Far from it. Packed with leading manufacturers' goods at knockdown prices, the malls are managing to woo hordes of shoppers. *Just not at this time of year.*

Sean Collidge, managing director of Freeport Leisure, a developer and operator of factory outlet centres, says: "The first two weeks of December were relatively good. The second two weeks were relatively poor because consumers reach a point of panic, when price is not the relevant issue — they just want anything that catches the imagination as being the right gift. January and February are normally very quiet as most of the high street is on sale. This means bargains exist everywhere."

Chris Pleech, director of property at Clarks, agrees: "It is quieter at the moment as there are so many bargains in the high street."

High street traders traditionally notch up the bulk of their sales and profits over the festive period. For the shopping villages, business starts to hum around Easter and sales keep up the momentum until Christmas fever strikes again in mid-December. Factory shopping first hit Britain from the US in the late 1980s. Rod Whitehead, an analyst at SBC Warburg, says: "In the *US, factory outlet shopping is* a well-established channel of distribution. It accounts for close to 10 per cent of clothing sales. In the UK, it is very much in its infancy."

In 1994, there were just two centres; now there are nine and, if the developers have their way, there could be 20 within the next 18 months. The first to open was Freeport Leisure's centre in Hornsea, East Yorkshire, which in 1989 opened its doors to shoppers keen to snap up a range of brands such as *Daks-Simpson*, Aquascutum, Laura Ashley and Windsmoor.

The biggest is Cheshire Oaks with 60 stores, which opened in April 1995 outside Chester. But when it comes to class, Bicester Outlet Shopping Village has the edge with a line-up of 48 stores including Joan & David shoes, Ralph Lauren, Bazaar, Lacroix's diffusion line and Cerruti and Jigsaw. The centres typically sell goods at prices 30 to 75 per cent below the high street.

Most of the malls are purpose-built, but the Clarks Village Factory Shopping centre *in Somerset was developed by* the shoe manufacturer to make use of redundant factory buildings. As a result, alongside brand names such as Jaeger, Benetton and Wrangler, there is a shoe museum and restaurant decorated with old machinery. The centre has become the biggest single tourist attraction in the West Country, drawing more visitors a year than Stonehenge or Bath's Roman spa.

In spite of their out-of-town locations, planning permission need not pose a problem. Mr Collidge says: "Getting permission is harder but, because we incorporate leisure and catering, our offer is perceived as leisure-retail not retail-leisure."

However, Mr Pleeth tells a different story. "It may be easier if you have a large leisure element but we are finding it extremely difficult to get planning permission. As a result, people are trying to resurrect existing permissions on dormant sites."

The shopping centres boast adventure playgrounds, grass, leisure activities, free crèches, *free parking, and three to four* types of restaurants. As a result, local reactions can be favourable — helped by the fact that a factory outlet mall can create 600 jobs.

The appeal to the customer is access to brands at markedly reduced prices. From the retailers perspective there are various advantages. Adrian Wright, who runs BAA/McArthur Glen, the developer behind Cheshire Oaks, says: "Selling a product at a third of the price on the high street while paying high street rents is not a profitable business. They don't want to see the stock being sold on street corners because it will devalue the brand, so a factory outlet offers a good alternative."

Another feature for clothing retailers is that fashions change so fast that stock on the high street has a life cycle of about eight weeks. The retailer can either mark down the good, drop it or transfer it to a factory outlet. The latter is attractive because malls are lower-cost locations, principally *because of lower rental* charges, so the price of the product can be reduced.

Mr Collidge says: "And the space that frees up can be used to stock full-priced products." One retailer testing the water is Burton Group, which has Principles outlets in Cheshire Oaks and Bicester and a Dorothy Perkins outlet in Cheshire Oaks. Two years ago, Burton sold vast amounts of its clothes at reduced prices, running the risk of shoppers developing a discount mentality, whereby they demanded and expected substantial reductions as the norm.

The problem has been tackled and most sales are now at *prime* value. A Burton spokeswoman says: "We are working to shorter sales periods than we were two years ago, so factory outlets give us a facility to sell end-of-line stock that has been removed from the high street." However, she emphasised that the concept is still in its infancy and it is too early to tell whether more outlets will be opened.

Burton's experience is not unusual. Mr Collidge says: "Four to five years ago, the *high street was on sale for 12* months of the year — then the bubble burst and stores can't sell at markdown prices for long periods of time."

The greatest appeal of the concept of factory shopping is to manufacturers. This is because their fate tends to lie in the hands of retailers who can — and frequently do — cancel orders. This leaves manufacturers with a cash flow problem as all their cash is tied up in stock.

Another use of a factory outlet for manufacturers is that they usually have to over-produce to ensure they can deliver an exact order. An order for 1,000 crystal glasses might require the need to produce 1,100 glasses to provide a safety margin to cover faulty or broken goods. As a result, the manufacturer ends up with surplus stock.

"In the UK, the traditional retailer has been unsure about the concept, so openings have had a higher proportion of brands — ie manufacturers cutting out the retailers — than in the US. It is questionable if that is dangerous for retailers," says Mr Whitehead.

He also questions whether there is more danger that retailers' factory stores could *cannibalise their high street* stores. One centre thought to have suffered from this fear is the planned factory village at Tobacco Dock in east London. Gerald Ratner, who is fronting the venture, is still trying to sign up tenants and the mall's opening has been delayed several times.

The success of a mall depends on its pulling power, which in turn depends on its location and number and quality of brands. When Cheshire Oaks had 30 shops, people drove about 23 miles to shop there. With 60, the distance leapt to 40 miles.

There is no denying that the concept is making its mark, albeit *from a low base. Only* time will tell whether it proves as successful here as in the US or whether it will remain a sideshow to the high street.

JOEL CHANT

The Bicester Outlet Shopping Village's 48 stores include Ralph Lauren and Jigsaw

The good news is already discounted

GILT-EDGED

The Chancellor's decision to cut base rates last week so soon after the December cut seemed slightly surprising in the light of *mounting evidence of recovery* in consumer demand. Retailers' reports of a bumper Christmas have been borne out with growth in retail sales volume at an annualised rate of over 3 per cent in the final quarter of 1995. However, stronger consumer spending has not been accompanied by a firmer trend in output. Manufacturing output has stagnated in recent months and there is little sign of an end to the recession in the construction industry.

There is no necessary contradiction between signs of firmer demand and soft output; it is a combination that will probably be maintained for several more months. Over the past year, *final* demand has grown much more slowly than GDP, leading to a rapid accumulation in stocks. This is unsustainable and at some *point these stocks will need to* be run down. Ideally the stock adjustment will take place in the context of strengthening demand, which companies can then meet out of existing production. In the absence of firmer demand, a more savage cutback in production will be necessary. Either way, a further period of below trend growth in GDP seems to be on the cards until demand and supply have been brought more closely into line.

A continued strengthening in demand cannot be taken for granted. Conditions in Britain's major trading partners, especially in Europe, continue to deteriorate, which will hamper export performance. Consumer spending seems on a *firmer footing, aided by a* number of "windfalls" this year and next, but confidence remains fragile. A period of rising unemployment or uncertainty about the political outlook could easily trigger a renewed reluctance to spend.

For gilt market investors, the key question is whether recent interest rate cuts are consistent with achieving the Government's inflation target of 2.5 per cent or less. Inevitably, there is a suspicion that the Chancellor will take rather more risks with inflation than he should in the next few months. This, rather than a fear of a change of government, is probably the main reason for the recent bout of underperformance by gilts relative to other bond markets.

So far, the decisions taken by the Chancellor on monetary policy seem consistent *with achieving the inflation* target over the next two years.

Lower inflationary pressures in the manufacturing and construction sectors will begin to feed through to retail prices over the next few months. With the economy likely to grow little more than 1 per cent in the year to mid-1996, sufficient slack *should be generated to bring* underlying retail price inflation down to under 2.5 per cent during the first half of 1997.

A *strong recovery in eco*nomic activity during the second half of this year and in 1997 would pose eventual problems for inflation, but these are unlikely to emerge until 1998. This is something that will need to be addressed by whoever is Chancellor after the next election. Interest rates still seem set to move lower in the next *few months*.

A combination of declining short-term interest rates and an improving outlook for inflation are favourable factors for gilts. But with *ten-year* yields having fallen to almost 7 per cent, much of this good economic news is now discounted. At this level of yields, *the gilt market is vulnerable* to increased political uncertainty and to setbacks in overseas markets. Both are likely to emerge as the year progresses. *In contrast to 1995, gilt yields* are likely to end the year at higher levels than they began.

DAVID WALTON

Goldman Sachs International

هكذا من الأصل

Everyone's a sucker for natural wonders

At the local gym the machines are called Nautilus, and are decorated with the image of a shell. A friend of mine has nautilus shells in her bathroom. Our budgie used to sharpen its beak on a cuttle fish. Why these disconnected statements, which might be interpreted as a mind jumping the rails? Because yesterday I saw **The Natural World** (BBC2) about the class of aquatic creature called the cephalopod, and such things will never be the same again. Even the joke about the sick squid ("Here's that sick squid I owe you") has lost much of its former charm.

Cephalopod means, I believe, "head and feet" — it includes squid and octopus, and any other horribly tentacled creature for which the neck and torso are considered surplus to requirements. The nautilus shell that rests so innocently on fluffy towels in my friend's bathroom once held a stuffed-in creature — pale, hideous and primitive, with big eyes and an embarrassment of legs seemingly protruding from its mouth. And as for the cuttle-fish — well, if the budgie knew the full story, its little heart would simply stop beating beneath its feathered breast.

Mike deGruy, the American marine biologist who made this film, takes the line that cephalopods are intelligent life forms. Squid change their body colours by the power of thought, apparently — which is a cute trick rarely mastered by human beings, even advanced Buddhists. In a laboratory tank in Galveston, a cuttlefish watches television images of other cuttlefish, and reacts by crossing its tentacles, rather like someone hoping to win the lottery. And in Puget Sound, deGruy deliberately seeks out the Devil Fish, a giant octopus maligned as a man-killer, and swims with it for fun.

This last is a scene suspended between awe and horror. Far from lacing a tentacle around deGruy's neck like something in Jules Verne, the octopus swarms over him a bit, and then seems to stroke him. The image of this encounter with "an intelligent alien" is thrilling, with the dark depths beyond, the coral-red of the eight-foot octopus, the grace of the synchronised swimming. But it is noticeable that tinkly New Age music is brought in to soothe the nerves at this point. The theme from *Psycho* would not have done at all.

[redacted]

Lynne Truss

This was a magnificent programme, plumbing real depths instead of metaphorical ones. These creatures, which have not evolved in 400 million years, have sometimes hidden a thousand metres below sea level. But now remote cameras can follow them down, and this film reported from great, scary depths — the footage as amazing as anything seen through the Hubble telescope. Marine biologists sidelit like Nasa scientists guided the camera towards an enormous vampire squid — orange and fat like a pumpkin, with a built-in grey umbrella made of webbed tentacles. "We couldn't believe our eyes," they said, laughing; and I was glad they said it first.

Unfortunately, elsewhere in the schedules there was less to astonish. On Saturday, **Peter York's Eighties** (BBC2) took us through the decade of advertising, but despite access to frank, smug Saatchi execs, failed to tell us anything we didn't already know. What a waste of talent this series is. York expounds on insights a decade old amid visual gags and gimmicks pitched in from all sides. His humdrum image about journalists, press agents and marketing men "taking in each other's laundry" was witlessly illustrated on Saturday with washing lines strung across a street, pegged out with tabloids and press releases. Extras marched back and forth, taking some down, pegging some up. Thank goodness he hadn't chosen to talk of people scratching each other's backs.

Nowadays the public understands all about marketing — in fact, the more interesting question is why, with our eyes wide open, we still knowingly collude with it. York is a brilliant communicator, who doesn't need all these larky set-ups. He just needs a new subject. That all image is fostered is not such an original thought, either — when you consider that the squid has known about it for 400 million years.

When Channel 4 came up with *Takeover TV* last May, the result was a mixed success. The idea was that members of the public would send in little spoofs and sketches on video. But when little Johnny Thing of Weybridge sent his funny *Star Trek* spoof (I've forgotten the details), his parents complained vehemently to *Right to Reply*. Having stayed up to a suspiciously late hour to watch *Takeover TV* (and alerted elderly relatives by phone) they were shocked to discover that Johnny's film was shown alongside a lot of lewd transvestites, stoned students and a man with a talking bum.

But now the public is safe from such embarrassment, because **Beadle's Hot Shots** on ITV is scheduled at 8.15 on Saturday night, and it could not be cosier. Not only are the innocent (and very funny) clips shown before an enthusiastic LWT studio audience, but the makers are invited on-stage for more joshing, to prove how harmless it all is. An alarming number of the sketches on Saturday included pretend-violence (man run over by speeding car; man caught up in cement-mixer), and there was a man with a comical truss over his trousers which we will naturally pass over without comment. But the inventiveness was of a high order generally. One sketch drew together *On the Buses* and the Village People in an interesting combination. It was more entertaining than the washing lines in *Peter York's Eighties*, truly.

BBC1

6.00am Business Breakfast (29754)

7.00 BBC Breakfast News (Ceefax) (29704716)

9.10 Kilroy Discussion series (s) (2840377)

10.00 News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (8497223) **10.05 Can't Cook, Won't Cook** (s) (6087464)

10.30 Good Morning (s) (61661)

12.00 News (Ceefax) and weather (6123445) **12.05pm Pebble Mill** (9354551) **12.50 Regional News** and weather (13066006)

1.00 One O'Clock News (Ceefax) (17174)

1.30 Neighbours (Ceefax) (s) (76817700) **1.55 Knots Landing** (s) (1292377) **2.40 The Spirit of England** (r) (8803993) **WALES: 1.55** The Spirit of England (17050358) **2.10** Welsh Questions Live (1375532)

2.55 Lifeline (Ceefax) (s) (7203613) **3.05 Timekeepers** (s) (5588261)

3.30 The Busy World of Richard Scarry (s) (4941547) **3.55 Bodger and Badger** (s) (2740984) **4.10 Chipmunks Go to the Movies** (r) (s) (2467939) **4.35 The Genie from Down Under** (Ceefax) (9842261) **5.00 Newsround** (Ceefax) (4217483) **5.10 Blue Peter** (Ceefax) (s) (7468174)

5.35 Neighbours (r) (Ceefax) (s) (703280) **N.I.: 5.35** Inside Ulster

6.00 Six O'Clock News (Ceefax) (551)

6.30 Regional News Magazines (803) **N.I.: 6.30** Neighbours

7.00 Noel's Telly Years. Noel Edmonds presents the nostalgia quiz that reviews television, fads and fashions from yesteryear. Tonight Jackie Stewart, Anne Aston, Reg Varney and Nerys Hughes review 1969, the year in which they all found fame (Ceefax) (s) (2193)

7.30 Watchdog. Anne Robinson presents the consumer magazine (777)

8.00 EastEnders. Pat's troubles move closer to home. (Ceefax) (s) (5613)

8.30 Goodnight Sweetheart. Gary feels on top of the world — the two loves of his life are happy and his shop is doing well — but pride comes before several falls (Ceefax) (s) (7648)

9.00 Nine O'Clock News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (8358)

9.30 Panorama. From Cradle to Grave: Broken Promises. The first of a two-part investigation into the disappearance of the welfare state. (Ceefax) (635385)

10.10 Film 96 with Barry Norman. Featuring Harrison Ford and Julia Ormond in Sydney Pollack's remake of the romantic fantasy *Sabrina* (Ceefax) (s) (952764) **N.I.: 10.10** Pipes and Drums **10.50** Film 96 **11.20** Omnibus **12.10am** Film: Neon Empire **2.00** Weather

10.40 [redacted] **Omnibus: The Ploughboy of the Western World.** (Ceefax) (s) (343377)

11.30 FILM: Little Girl Lost (1988) starring Tess Harper and Frederic Forrest. When five-year-old Tella reveals to her foster parents that her natural father abuses her, they begin a complicated battle in the courts to adopt her legally and end her father's visiting rights. Directed by Sharron Miller (378629)

1.05am Weather (7280566) **WALES: 1.05** News headlines and weather (7280566)

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BBC2

6.00am Business Matters (41464) **6.30 The Business** (85087)

7.00 BBC Breakfast News. (Ceefax) (6177551)

7.15 Lassie (r) (3208629) **7.40 Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles** (r) (7282984) **8.05 Blue Peter** (r). (Ceefax) (s) (5327735) **8.30 Songs of Praise** (r). (Ceefax) (s) (9924975)

9.05 Daytime on Two: Techno (6170464) **9.25** Pathways of Belief (6015532) **9.40** Square One TV (1573984) **10.00** Playdays (6086735) **10.25** Hotch Potch House (7244919) **10.45** Look and Read (4292396) **11.05** Zig Zag (8922498) **11.25** Technology Starters (8555464) **11.40** English Time (5151700) **12.00** The English Collection (25754) **12.30pm** Working Lunch (53025) **1.00** History File (58469880) **1.20** Landmarks (68364236) **1.40** Storytime (64140754) **2.00** Joshua Jones (86632483)

2.15 FILM: The Last Elephant (1990) starring John Lithgow and Isabella Rossellini. An elephant-poaching drama directed by Robert Halmi (727174)

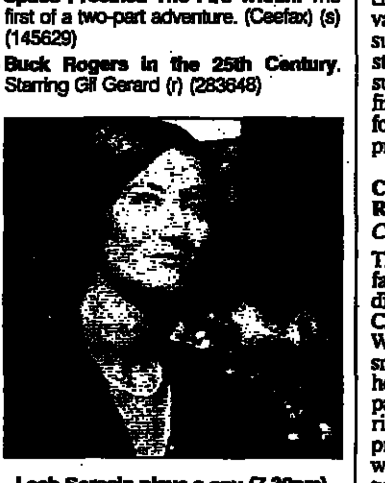
3.55 News (Ceefax) (5138071) **4.00 Today's the Day** (s) (716) **4.30 Ready, Steady, Cook** (s) (700) **5.00 Esther** (s) (7071)

5.30 The Village. The Hampshire village of Bentley. (702551)

5.55 My Village. Neville Smith guides us around Etal, near Berwick-on-Tweed (437396)

6.00 Space Precinct: The Fire Within. The first of a two-part adventure. (Ceefax) (s) (145629)

6.45 Buck Rogers in the 25th Century. Starring Gil Gerard (r) (283648)



Leah Seresin plays a spy (7.30pm)

7.30 [redacted] **Hidden Empire: Calling London** (Ceefax) (s) (629)

8.00 [redacted] **Horizon: A Miracle for Cancer?** (Ceefax) (s) (447957)

8.50 Trade Secrets. Nannies on coping with naughty youngsters. (Ceefax) (s) (175919)

9.00 Our Friends in the North. In episode two of the series charting the lives of four friends. Geordie finds new employment with a Soho porn baron; while Tosker's dreams and marriage to Mary are fading fast (Ceefax) (s) (1970006)

10.05 Travel Show Essential Guides. Gardens in northern France: Antwerp (Ceefax) (s) (113990)

10.30 Newsnight. (Ceefax) (884209)

11.15 The Brains Trust chaired by Mary Ann Sieghart, of *The Times*. The guests are Richard Dawkins, Ben Okri, Lisa Jardine and Paul Helm (741280)

11.55 Weather (891532)

12.00 Midnight Hour with Sir Bernard Ingham (s) (82385)

12.30am-6.00 The Learning Zone

[redacted]

Hidden Empire: Calling London
BBC2, 7.30pm

The daughter of an Indian Muslim father and an American mother, Noor Ianyat Khan was an unlikely recruit to British wartime intelligence. Her pacifism seemed, to disqualify her from active service. Yet she operated as a British agent in occupied France, was captured by the Gestapo and put to death in Dachau concentration camp. She was posthumously awarded the George Cross and the Croix de Guerre. All of which prepares us for a stirring tale of selfless heroism, the stuff of many a 1950s war film. We do not get it. Noor was undoubtedly courageous. But Gabriel Beristain's film, largely based on dramatic reconstruction, questions whether she was temperamentally suited to the job and suggests that as well as helping the cause of the Resistance she may have put other agents' lives in danger.

Horizon: A Miracle For Cancer?
BBC2, 8.00pm

President Nixon's declaration of war on cancer is one the less remembered acts of his presidency. Nixon talked of finding a cure for the disease in ten years. Twenty-five years to the month since he made the speech, *Horizon* tots up the balance sheet. The bad news is that more people are dying of cancer now than in 1971. But there are some encouraging signs. The film focuses on work by a Californian doctor, Donald Morton, to treat cancer, not by the usual means of chemotherapy and radiotherapy, but by vaccination. So far vaccine has had most success with cancers of the skin. The next step is to extend vaccination to other cancers, such as prostate. The research has a strong financial backer in Michael Milken, the former Wall Street financier, himself a prostate cancer victim.

Cutting Edge: I Married a Great Train Robber
Channel 4, 9.00pm

The story of the Great Train Robbery never fails to grip and this latest retelling does not disappoint. We hear it this time from Charmian, the former Mrs Ronnie Biggs. When Charmian married Biggs he was a small-time criminal trying to go straight. But he soon went back to his old ways, particularly when tempted by the chance of rich pickings from a mail train. Sprung from prison, Biggs surfaced in Australia where he was joined by Charmian. But the reunion turned sour when Ronnie disappeared to Brazil, leaving Charmian to build a new life without him. Although scarred, Charmian looks back on the episode without self-pity. And she cannot help echo the description of Biggs's old adversary, detective Jack Slipper: "He is such a likeable bloody rogue."

Omnibus: The Ploughboy of the Western World
BBC1, 10.40pm

A little early in the year, since his death did not take place until July 21, *Omnibus* marks the 200th anniversary of the death of Robert Burns. The film strives to rescue its subject from the folksy image and suggests that there was more to him than love songs and sexual exploits. The writer Andrew O'Hagan stresses the importance of Burns's radical politics. He points out that the poet read Tom Paine, supported the French Revolution and came up with ideas shocking for their time. The film also examines the seemingly unlikely claim by Paddy Hogg, a Burns enthusiast, that he has discovered unattributed Burns poems. The poet and playwright Liz Lochhead and the novelist Al Kennedy are among contemporary Scottish writers who offer their assessments of a famous compatriot. **Peter Waymark**

HTV

6.00am GMTV (2644648)

9.25 Win, Lose or Draw (s) (4017342)

9.55 Regional News (Teletext) (6990984)

10.00 The Time . . . the Place (s) (1837280)

10.35 This Morning (57078990)

12.20pm Regional News (Teletext) (6129629)

12.30 News and weather (Teletext) (6426551)

12.55 Shortland Street (s) (9402445)

1.20 Coronation Street (r) (Teletext) (32861716)

1.50 Home and Away (Teletext) (76991716)

2.20 Chain Letters (Teletext) (s) (18836735)

2.50 Simply Delicious with Family and Friends (4363261)

3.25 Regional News (Teletext) (2014006)

3.30 Rainbow Days (s) (2838193) **3.40 Tots TV** (s) (7429716) **3.50 Disney's Goofy** (7345700) **4.00 Scooby Doo** (2658087) **4.15 Harry's Mad** (Teletext) (s) (678919) **4.45 Art Attack** (Teletext) (s) (9760613)

5.10 The List (6993716)

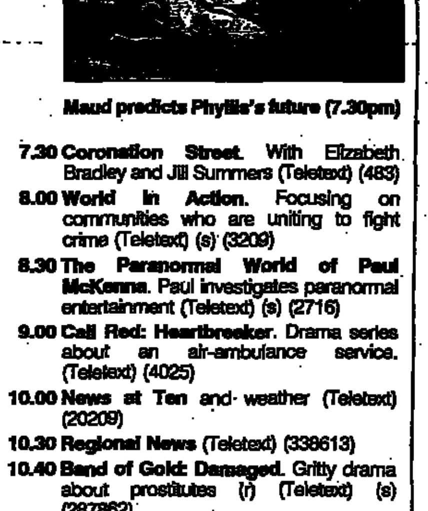
5.40 News and weather (Teletext) (229803)

6.00 Home and Away (r) (Teletext) (709025)

6.25 HTV News (879358)

6.45 Sportsweek (662700)

7.00 Talking Telephone Numbers. Live show hosted by Phillip Schofield and Emma Forbes. (s) (7261)



Maud predicts Phyllis's future (7.30pm)

7.30 Coronation Street. With Elizabeth Bradley and Jill Summers (Teletext) (483)

8.00 World in Action. Focusing on communities who are uniting to fight crime (Teletext) (s) (3209)

8.30 The Paranormal World of Paul McKenna. Paul investigates paranormal entertainment (Teletext) (s) (2716)

9.00 Call Red: Heartbreaker. Drama series about an air-ambulance service. (Teletext) (4025)

10.00 News at Ten and weather (Teletext) (20209)

10.30 Regional News (Teletext) (338613)

10.40 Band of Gold: Damaged. Gritty drama about prostitutes (r) (Teletext) (s) (287862)

11.40 Tales from the Crypt (759342)

12.10 Bushell on the Box (s) (5953491)

12.40 League Extra (2704781)

1.25 The Crime Hour (2883168)

2.20 Jones and Jury (s) (1349007)

2.45 FILM: Dreamer (1979) starring Tim Matheson and Susan Blakely. A young man becomes obsessed with the idea of winning the national bowling championships. Directed by Noel Nosseck (910675)

4.20 Music Box Profile (17488656)

4.30 The Time . . . the Place (r) (s) (50120)

5.00 An Invitation to Remember (r) (35323)

5.30 Morning News (10168)

HTV WALES

As HTV WEST except:

5.10pm-5.40 Ready Money (6993716)

6.25-7.00 Wales Tonight (967938)

[redacted]

As HTV West except:

12.55 Chain Letters (6338342)

1.25 Coronation Street (32860087)

1.55 Home and Away (76990087)

2.25 Gardeners' Diary (18844754)

2.50-3.20 High Road (4363261)

5.10-5.40 Home and Away (6993716)

6.00-7.00 Westcountry Live (52342)

[redacted]

As HTV West except:

12.55 Home and Away (6338342)

1.25 Chain Letters (32860087)

1.55 A Country Practice (64123087)

2.20-3.20 Blue Heelers. Australian rural police drama series (3855984)

5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (6993716)

6.25-7.00 Central News and Weather (967938)

11.40 World Championship Boxing (827174)

1.25am Bushell on the Box (3145101)

2.50 FILM: Children of Chance (1949, b/w). A drama set during the Second World War starring Patricia Medina. Directed by Luigi Zampa (8743255)

4.20 Jobfinder (2224101)

5.20 Asian Eye (3576588)

[redacted]

As HTV West except:

12.55pm-1.25 Chain Letters (6338342)

1.25 Home and Away (32860087)

1.55 A Country Practice (76990087)

2.25-3.20 Blue Heelers (5538445)

5.10 Home and Away (6993716)

6.00 Meridian Tonight (919)

6.30-7.00 Country Ways (241)

11.40 The Shape of Things (759342)

4.15am Music Box Profile (84726410)

[redacted]

Starts: 7.00 The Big Breakfast (30025)

9.00 Fifteen to One (35218)

9.30 Schools

12.00 Right to Reply (10822)

12.30pm Camberwick Green (48193)

1.00 Slot Meithrin (37984)

1.30 Crawshaws Sketching and Drawing Course (9625532)

2.05 Film: Song of the Islands (2028844)

3.30 The Wired World (377)

4.00 Backdate (984)

4.30 Gardens Without Borders (396)

5.00 5 Pump: Rownd a Rownd (3825464)

5.15 5 Pump: Ffeil (4116700)

5.30 Countdown (648)

6.00 Newyddion (165667)

6.15 Heno (676174)

7.00 Pobol Y Cwm 889 (260435)

7.25 Y Byd Ar Bedwar (245648)

8.00 Joni Jones: Y Ffoadur (4551)

8.30 Newyddion/News (8218)

9.00 Auf Wiedersehen, Pet: A Law for the Rich (2667)

10.00 Sgorio (5405174)

11.05 Roseanne (898025)

11.35 The Dying Rooms Debate (993716)

12.15am Divine Magic (2233830)

CHANNEL 4

6.35am Think Tank (r) (Teletext) (s) (5644613)

7.00 The Big Breakfast (30025)

9.00 Fifteen to One (r) (Teletext) (s) (35218)

9.30 Schools: Geography (3158700) **9.45** Book Box (3259483) **10.00** Stage Two Science (7156700) **10.15** Learn Sign Language (4384754) **10.20** Place and People (7230716) **10.40** English (7705174) **11.05** Encyclopaedia Galactica (9220071) **11.15** The Mix (8551648) **11.30** Rat-a-Tat-Tat (5239532) **11.45** Living with Technology (5234087)

12.00 Right to Reply (r) (Teletext) (s) (10822)

12.30pm Sesame Street (39648) **1.30 Wowser** (76913938) **1.55 Closed Mondays** (42487613)

2.05 Journey into a Lost Japan. With Lesley Downer (r) (49253193)

2.35 FILM: Five Steps to Danger (1957, b/w). Ruth Roman and Sterling Hayden star in this espionage thriller. Directed by Jim Abrahams (Teletext) (5652551)

4.00 Backdate. Quiz. (Teletext) (s) (984)

4.30 Countdown with Richard Whiteley (396)

5.00 Love in the Afternoon. Romantic magazine (4174)

6.00 The Cosby Show. Includes a guest appearance by Danny Kaye (r). (Teletext) (261)

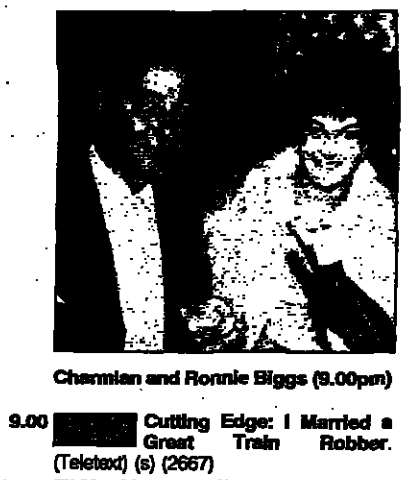
6.30 Hollyoaks. (Teletext) (s) (613)

7.00 Channel 4 News (Teletext) (484213)

7.55 The Slot. Viewers' soapbox (302716)

8.00 Screaming Reels. Angling magazine. (Teletext) (s) (4551)

8.30 Wild Britain: Children of the Storm. Amateur cameraman Chris Doncaster's film about Atlantic Grey seals (r). (Teletext) (s) (8218)



Charmian and Ronnie Biggs (9.00pm)

9.00 [redacted] **Cutting Edge: I Married a Great Train Robber.** (Teletext) (s) (2667)

10.00 FILM: Glory (1989) starring Matthew Broderick and Denzel Washington. A tribute to the soldiers of the 54th Regiment of Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry, who fought in the first black regiment raised in the North during the American Civil War. Directed by Edward Zwick (Teletext) (s) (57130416)

12.20am The Sexual Imperative: The Sex Contract. Why do some animals have many mates while others have just one? (r) (Teletext) (s) (9426526)

1.20 FILM: The Man in the Mirror (1936, b/w). Farcical comedy starring Edward Everett Horton as a timid businessman whose mirror image comes to life and reorganises his life. Directed by Maurice Elvey (300168)

2.55 Doing It with You Is . . . Taboo. In the final episode of the series, black gay men and lesbian women tell presenter Dotun Kogbara about the sexual stereotyping they face (r) (7150743). Ends at **3.50**

SATELLITE

● **For more comprehensive listings of satellite and cable channels, see the Vision supplement, published Saturday**

SKY ONE

7.00am The DJ Kat Show (62813) 8.30 Press Your Luck (83984) 9.00 Court TV (50464) 9.30 Oprah Winfrey (49919) 10.30 Concentration (58648) 11.00 Sally Jessy Raphael (51532) 12.00 Jeopardy! (67700) 12.30pm Murphy Brown (95071) 1.00 The Waltons (96754) 2.00 Geraldo (44700) 3.00 Court TV (6938) 3.30 Oprah Winfrey (2963803) 4.15 Undun (4656358) 5.00 Star Trek (1590) 6.00 The Simpsons (4613) 6.30 Jeopardy! (1193) 7.00 LAPD (8919) 7.30 M*A*S*H (7377) 8.00 Central Park West (33209) 9.00 The Golden Globe Awards (36396) 11.00 Star Trek (72025) 12.00 Late Show with David Letterman (6976507) 12.45am The Untouchables (6252410) 1.30 SIBS (69491) 2.00 Hit Mix Long Play

SKY NEWS

News on the hour

6.00am Sunrise (8019280) 10.10 CBS 60 Minutes (4724613) 1.30pm CBS News (92984) 2.30 Parliament (7754) 3.30 Parliament (8071) 5.00 Live at Five (8532) 6.30 Tonight (9735) 8.10 CBS 60 Minutes (679377) 11.30 CBS News (43025) 12.30am ABC World News (90830) 1.30 Tonight (67033) (1069304) 2.10 CBS 60 Minutes (7763472) 3.30 SKY News (32323) 3.30 Parliament Replay (32323) 4.30 CBS News (31120) 5.30 ABC World News

SKY MOVIES

6.00am Marlowe (1969) (58964) 8.00 Girl Crazy (1943) (31280) 10.00 My Father, the Hero (1994) (79087) 12.00 L'accompagnatrice (1992) (21803) 2.00pm Pumping Iron II: The Women (1985) (34984) 4.00 True Stories (1986) (5822) 6.00 My Father, the Hero (1994) (75445) 7.30 Close-up () (2445) 8.00 Separated by Murder (1994) (22193) 10.00 The Crow (1994) (270613) 11.45 Aspen Extreme (1993) (998990) 1.45am El Mariachi (1993) (1911985) 3.10-5.10 Indian Summer (1993) (25697323)

SKY MOVIES GOLD

4.00pm The Fleet's In (1942) (4754) 6.00 Broken Arrow (1950) (92990) 8.00 The Breakfast Club (1985) (67385) 10.00 Fahrenheit 451 (1966) (76464) 12.00 The Tenant (1976) (46777101) 2.05-3.40am It's Alive (1973) (211781)

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

6.00am Gallavants (1986) (52754) 8.00 Jem: The Movie (1986) (39822) 10.00 Black Widow (1954) (77629) 12.00 A Girl in Every Port (1951) (29445) 2.00pm The Caddy (1953) (38754) 4.00 Jem: The Movie (1986) (3484) 6.00 Class of '61 (1992) (18990) 8.00 The Night We Never Met (1993) (20735) 10.00 Short Cuts (1993) (96895687) 1.05am Married to It (1993) (259946) 3.00 Fragment of Fear (1971) (151120) 4.35-6.00 A Girl in Every Port (1951) (9661965)

THE DISNEY CHANNEL

Sky Movies Gold takes over from 10pm to 4am.

6.00am Under the Umbrella Tree (31852532) 6.30 Fraggle Rock (10550714) 7.00 Winnie the Pooh (47028321) 7.30 Ducktales (98373218) 8.00 Chip 'n Dale (49619087) 8.30 Adventures in Wonderland (49617358) 9.00 Walt Disney (31861280) 10.00 Under the Umbrella Tree (19272826) 10.30 Fraggle Rock (49620822) 11.00 Muppet Babies (69998006) 11.30 Pooh Corner (69997735) 12.00 Quack Attack (49611174) 12.30pm Dumbo's Circus (89591826) 1.00 Adventures in Wonderland (46478862) 1.30 FILM: Johnny Shiloh (99429377) 3.00 The Birthday Dragon (20018280) 3.30 Winnie the Pooh (73282434) 4.00 Quack Attack (98032731) 4.30 Ducktales (92639795) 5.00 Chip 'n Dale Rescue Rangers (20020025) 5.30 Danger Bay (74632975) 6.00 Tarzan (77682498) 6.30 Dinosaurs (97682290) 7.00 Boy Meets World (20000261) 7.30 Thunder Alley (91282254) 8.00-10.00 FILM: Yours, Mine and Ours (20988261)

EUROSPORT

7.30am Alpine Skiing (86006) 8.30 Ski Jumping (82358) 10.00 Tennis (2453396) 7.00 Speedworld (16483) 9.00 Tennis (77687) 10.00 Football (70754) 11.00-12.30pm Football (44416)

SKY SPORTS

7.00am Gillette World Sport Special (70321) 7.30 Racing News (97358) 8.00 World of Speed and Beauty (26342) 8.30 Powerboat World (25613) 9.00 Aerobics (12193) 9.30 Big League (223261) 11.30 Windsurfing (35193) 12.00 Football Special (72241) 1.30pm International Cricket (55342) 2.00 American Sports Cavalcade (82174) 3.00 Wrestling (876984) 6.00 Sports Centre (1975) 6.30 Tartan Extra (1377) 7.00 Football — Live (88384025) 10.15 Sports Centre (125377) 10.45 Tartan Extra (124648) 11.15 Bushido — the Ultimate Fight (513803) 12.15am Football (899014) 2.15-2.45 Sports Centre (483782)

SKY SPORTS GOLD

10.00pm Cricket Hall of Fame: Sunil Gavaskar (5403385) 10.30 Bobby Charlton's Football Scrapbook (4528483) 12.00-1.00am Golf — the Open 1979 (5863675)

THE CHRISTIAN CHANNEL

4.00am Living Word 5.00 Kenneth Copeland 5.30 Kidz TV 5.45 General Entertainment 6.15 Ulf Ekman 6.45-7.00 Music Television

SKY SOAP

7.00am Guiding Light (7203648) 7.55 As the World Turns (9939667) 8.50 Peyton Place (7368993) 9.20 Days of Our Lives (7609006) 10.10-11.00 Another World (8874957)

SKY TRAVEL

11.00am Globetrotter (4423948) 11.30 To the Ends of the Earth (2139532) 12.30pm Frugal Gourmet Cooks Italian (5874716) 1.00 Around the World in 30 Minutes (7408025) 1.30 Sky Travel Guide (5873087) 2.00 Trailside (8846513) 2.30 On Top of the World (2047280) 3.00 Getaway (8938648) 3.30-4.00 Kids Down Under (2059025)

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

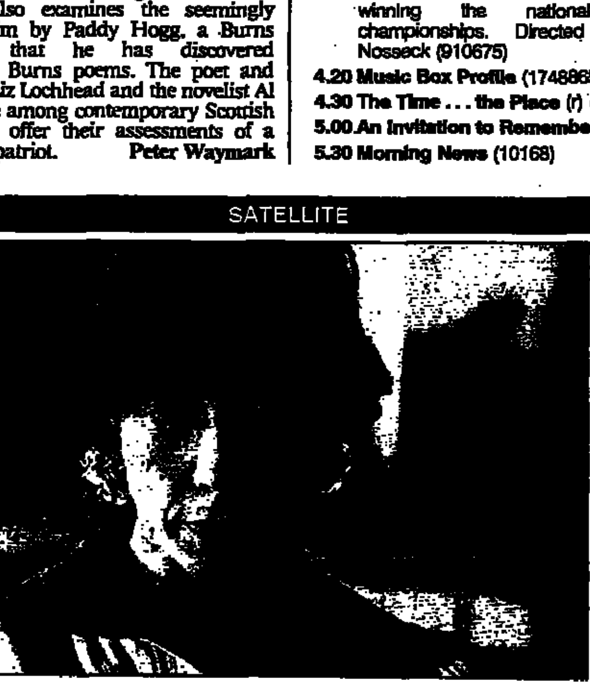
4.00pm British Prime Ministers of the 20th Century (8932464) 6.00-7.00 Biography: Winston Churchill (5982735)

THE SCI-FI CHANNEL

7.00pm Mysteries, Magic and Miracles (8920629) 7.30 Ray Bradbury Theatre (2035445) 8.00 Vault of Horror (3836803) 8.30 Alfred Hitchcock (5897280) 10.00 Close (4982784) 1.00am Mysteries, Magic and Miracles (7925174) 1.30 Ray Bradbury Theatre (8063588) 2.00 Vault of Horror (9695897) 3.30-4.00 Alfred Hitchcock (3564148)

TLC

9.00am The Joy of Painting (6418396) 9.30 Gardeners' Diary (7865649) 10.00 Two's Country (7285918) 10.30 Our House (6407280) 11.00 The Painted House (5881261) 11.30 Running Repairs (5882990) 12.00 Julia Child (6498532) 12.30pm The Frugal Gourmet (7889464) 1.00 Yan Can Cook (8931716) 1.30 On the Edge (7868735) 2.00 Dogs with Dunbar (2385803) 2.30 Secret Gardens (1662667) 3.00 Two's Country (2304938) 3.30-4.00 This Old House (1561984)



Lily Tomlin stars in *Short Cuts* (Movie Channel, 10.00pm)

UK GOLD

7.05am Angels (1073254) 7.30 Neighbours (9953938) 8.00 Sons and Daughters (6497803) 8.30 EastEnders (6498174) 9.00 The Bill (6410754) 9.30 The Sullivans (7887006) 10.00 Secret Army (8942822) 11.00 Juliet Bravo (8939358) 12.00 Sons and Daughters (6490990) 12.30pm Neighbours (7861822) 1.00 EastEnders (6933174) 1.30 The Bill (7880193) 2.00 The Sullivans (61029919) 2.25 Are You Being Served? (2231822) 3.00 Angels (2306396) 3.30 Eldorado (1563342) 4.00 Casualty (35347613) 5.05 Larry Grayson's Generation Game (77310880) 6.15 Kenny's Comic Cuts (8776006) 6.25 EastEnders (6595700) 7.00 Eldorado (2398377) 7.30 Happy Ever After (1645990) 8.00 George and Mildred (2307025) 8.30 Alas Smith and Jones (2366532) 9.00 Casualty (4580613) 10.00 The Bill (9891532) 10.35 Top of the Pops (7446919) 11.20 The Lenny Henry Show (1683532) 12.00 Everybody's Equal (2205014) 12.30 FILM: As Time Goes By (9898743) 2.10 Shopping

TCC

6.00am Swan's Crossing (89822) 6.30 Pugwall's Summer (87754) 7.00 Ready or Not (13613) 7.30 California Dreams (91808) 8.00 Sweet Valley High (51006) 8.30 Tiny TCC (55630396) 12.55pm Tiny TCC (49577613) 2.30 Jim Henson's Animal Show (3754) 3.00 Sonic the Hedgehog (3784) 3.30 The New Pink Panther Show (2071) 4.00 California Dreams (4006) 4.30-5.00 Sweet Valley High (3990)

NICKELODEON

6.00am Henry's Cat (5285342) 6.15 Blue, Child of the Earth (969261) 6.45 Toucan Tex (9089735) 7.00 Batfink (7148716) 7.05 Grimmy (6805990) 7.45 Rugrats/Doug (954716) 8.15 Aaahh!!! Real Monsters (2034396) 8.30 Rocko's Modern Life (29463) 9.00 The Chipmunks (10735) 9.30 Pee-Wee's Playhouse (56025) 10.00 Banana Sandwich (11984) 11.00 Children's BBC (20808) 12.00 Magic School Bus (27071) 12.30pm Grimmy (54613) 1.00 Global Guts (20644) 1.30 Visionaries (53984) 2.00 Children's BBC (60716) 3.00 Pet Shop (2416) 3.30 Mighty Max (2483) 4.00 The Ferals (1980) 4.30 Rugrats and Doug (7174) 5.00 Sister Sister (9613) 5.30 Mirror Mirror (1754) 6.00 Ren and Stimpy (8667) 6.30 Pete and Pete (9919) 7.00 The Odyssey (2377) 7.30-8.00 Are You Afraid of the Dark?

DISCOVERY

4.00pm Bush Tucker Man (1653919) 4.30 Fire (1642803) 5.00 Treasure Hunters (2309483) 5.30 Terra X (1666483) 6.00 Invention (1663396) 6.30 Beyond 2000 (4821268) 7.30 Mysterious Universe (1643532) 8.00 Invention (2305667) 8.30 Weather (2364174) 9.00 The Pacific (4684483) 10.00 Classic Wheels (4581342) 11.00-12.00 Leopards

BRAVO

12.00 FILM: The Hideous Sun Demon (6656667) 1.30pm Death Valley Days (7855261) 2.00 Saint (7253174) 3.00 The Buccaneers (2391464) 3.30 The Adventures of William Tell (1661938) 4.00 FILM: The Gods Must Be Crazy (2385280) 6.00 The Adventures of Robin Hood (1650822) 6.30 The Time Tunnel (2843934) 7.30 The Protectors (1647358) 8.00 Saint (4669445) 9.00 Starsky and Hutch (4668209) 10.00-12.00 FILM: Surf Nazis Must Die (5883603)

UK LIVING

6.00am Agony Hour (5301919) 7.00 Kilroy (9416551) 8.00 Esther (9044716) 8.30 Go for It (9043087) 9.00 The Victorian Kitchen (3975532) 9.35 Kate and Allie (2172445) 10.05 The Jerry Springer Show (8116754) 11.00 Young and Restless (8528803) 11.55 Brookside (6150990) 12.30pm Dangerous Women (4535795) 1.25 Crosswits (4108498) 2.00 Agony Hour (2821071) 3.00 Live at Three (1721532) 4.00 Infatuation UK (1268803) 4.30 Crosswits (3868484) 5.05 Lingo (82165984) 5.30 Lucky Ladders (1268667) 6.00 Bewitched (1276280) 6.30 Brookside (2702613) 7.05 Food and Drink (2628754) 7.40 The Joker's Wild (1785396) 8.05 Young and Restless (5806667) 9.00 FILM: Desperate Justice (74254735) 10.50 Entertainment Now! (7187700) 11.00-12.00 The Erogenous Zone (8332613)

FAMILY CHANNEL

5.00am The Adventures of Black Beauty (5829) 5.30 Adventures of Tintin (969919) 5.55 Batman (422700) 6.30 Catchphrase (5735) 7.00 Trivial Pursuit (8193) 7.30 The Fall Guy (96919) 8.30 Only When I Laugh (3648) 9.00 The Miser (93629) 10.00 Treasure Hunt (96716) 11.00 Neon Rider (95261) 12.00 The Fall Guy (57507) 1.00pm Batman (32697) 1.30 Rhoda (56965) 2.00 Big Brother Jake (50878) 2.30 Neon Rider (12265) 3.30 Rhoda (53965) 4.00 Big Brother Jake (34830) 4.30-5.00 The Adventures of Black Beauty (13762)

MTV

6.30am The Grind (83984) 7.00 3 from 1 (9653984) 7.15 Awake on the Wildside (3569629) 8.00 Music Videos (115938) 11.00 Soul (16754) 12.00 MTV's Greatest Hits (99700) 1.00pm Music Non-stop (50269754) 2.45 3 from 1 (8677822) 3.00 Cinematic (1260280) 3.15 Hanging Out (1892667) 4.00 News (8329483) 4.15 Hanging Out (8313006) 4.30 Dial MTV (2648) 5.00 Hit List UK (44716) 7.00 MTV's Greatest Hits (99803) 8.00 Smashing Pumpkins Rockumentary (3071) 8.30 TBC (5006) 9.00 Real London (67716) 9.30 Beavis and Butt-head (70629) 10.00 News (196483) 10.15 Cinematic (191938) 10.30 Reggae Soundsystem (60700) 11.00 The End? (82261) 11.30 Videos (3984890)

VH-1

7.00am Power Breakfast (7405396) 9.00 Café VH-1 (8296342) 12.00 Heart and Soul (5695209) 1.00pm The Vinyl Years (5871629) 2.00 Lyle Lovett (5257303) 3.00 Into the Music (2997648) 5.00 INXS (5884193) 7.00 VH-1 for You (4720071) 8.00 Album Chart (4813735) 10.00 Backtrack: 1963 (3603303) 10.30 Planet Rock Profiles (8657223) 11.00 Tommy Vance (8181938) 1.00am Massive Attack (2061782) 2.00 Dawn Patrol

CMT EUROPE

Country music from 6am to 7pm on satellite, including 5.00pm Saturday Nite Dance Ranch 6.00-7.00 Big Ticket

ZEE TV

7.00am Asian Morning (86790358) 8.30 Public Demand (70819377) 9.30 Campus (53914377) 10.00 Urdu Serial: Chand Grahan (42869813) 11.00 Khana Khazana (42466551) 11.30 Yaadon Ke Rang (42487280) 12.00 Dekh Bhai Dekh (86602862) 12.30pm Khubsoorat (53918193) 1.00 Hindi FILM: Taqdeerwala starring Raveena Tandon/Venkatesh (62242785) 4.00 Mirza Ghalib (11845006) 4.30 Akbar Birbal (11834990) 5.00 Zee Zona (37069483) 5.30 Gujarati Serial: Narsaiyo (11752342) 6.00 Chakravyuha (11855483) 6.30 Zee and U (11846735) 7.00 Parampara (57890551) 8.00 News (37065867) 8.30 Hindi FILM: Dil Ka Doctor (91185532) 11.00 Yule Love Stories (42478532) 11.30 Baran Masalay

CARTOON NETWORK/TNT

Continuous cartoons from 5am to 7pm, then TNT films as below.

7.00pm Boys' Night Out (1962) (59723759) 9.00 Love Crazy (1941) (20985174) 11.00 Air Raid Wardens (1943) (99028735) 12.15am Lost in a Harem (1944) (57994304) 1.50 I Dood It (1943) (92705675) 3.40 Air Raid Wardens

CNN/QVC

CNN provides 24-hour news and QVC is the home shopping channel.

PERFORMANCE

7.00pm Spartacus 10.00 Lee Ritenour and Friends 12.00-3.00am Mozart's Don Giovanni

NBC SUPER CHANNEL

6.00am Today (79149280) 8.00 Super Shop (21704396) 9.00 European Moneywheel (72128667) 1.30pm The Squawk Box (52009464) 3.00 US Moneywheel (61883349) 4.30 FT Business Tonight (14712777) 5.00 ITN World News (88230209) 5.30 Frost's Century (73200209) 6.30 Selina Scott (38372358) 7.30 Frontal (35129209) 8.30 ITN World News (68135700) 9.00 NHL Power Week (86742938) 10.00 The Tonight Show (85745025) 11.00 The Best of Late Night (94383532) 12.00 Later with Greg Kinnear (23630101) 12.30am NBC Nightly News (40017174) 1.00 The Best of the Tonight Show (12828491) 2.00 Selina Scott (57137120) 3.00 Talkin' Blues (80731762) 3.30 Europe 2000 (79030589) 4.00 The Selina Scott Show (94050101) 5.00 ITN World News (22333830) 5.15 NBC News (22336385) 5.30 Steals and Deals

SELECTV

5.00pm Birds of a Feather 5.30 All Together Now 6.00 Hey Dad 6.30 Life Begins at 40 7.00 Boon 8.00 Birds of a Feather 8.30 The Tracy Ullman Show 9.00 Connie 10.00 Lovejoy 11.00 Golf 11.30-12.00 Duty Free

هكذا من الأصل

WEEK AHEAD 37

WH SMITH FEELS THE EFFECT OF CUT-PRICE BOOKS

BUSINESS

SHOP FRONT 38

THE GROWTH OF FACTORY OUTLETS FOR BARGAINS

MONDAY JANUARY 22 1996

BUSINESS EDITOR LINDSAY COOK

G7 rejects threat of economic slowdown

By Janet Bush
Economics Correspondent

THE Group of Seven industrialised countries played down the threat of a world economic slowdown after meeting in Paris on Saturday, but France and Germany held bilateral talks about stimulating their economies.

Jean Arthuis, France's Finance Minister, said in his chairman's statement that, despite a temporary slowdown in most of the G7 countries, the underlying conditions necessary for a sustained recovery were in place.

He said France and Germany had an intensive exchange of views before the G7 meeting and hoped to hold a joint Franco-German economic council meeting within the next few weeks.

Jacques Chirac, French President, said last week that the two countries planned to co-operate on measures to encourage consumer spending and investment.

However, Hans Tietmeyer, the *Bundesbank* president, poured cold water on market hopes of a cut in official German interest rates soon. He said that the central bank would have to look carefully at developments in M3 money for "the start of the year and some time beyond".

Meanwhile, Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, strongly justified his decision to cut interest rates by ¼ point, the second move in as many months. He said that British growth was running well below trend and that he was on track to hit his target of inflation of 2.5 per cent or less by the end of the current Parliament.

The markets are now braced for today's preliminary estimate of growth in the fourth quarter. Gross domestic product is expected to have risen 0.4 per cent, giving a year-on-year rise of only 1.8 per cent compared with 2.1 per cent in the third quarter.

PHOTOGRAPHS BY JAMES MORGAN

Sitting pretty: a relaxed Gerry Robinson, Granada chief executive, yesterday, who will know tomorrow whether his takeover bid has succeeded

MAM meeting today decides fate of Forte

By Lindsay Cook and Philip Pangalos

GRANADA should hear tomorrow that it has the backing of Mercury Asset Management, which should swing its £3.9 billion hostile bid for Forte, the hotels and restaurants group.

The top investment team of the fund management company will meet this afternoon to make its final decision on which way it will vote with its 15 per cent stake in Forte.

MAM is Forte's largest investor, followed by Granada, which has lifted its stake to 9.9 per cent after buying in the market last week, while the Forte family and directors control 8.4 per cent.

A team of six senior MAM executives will meet this afternoon before Carol Galley, MAM's vice-chairman, confers with Hugh Stevenson, MAM's chairman, and Stephen Zimmerman, deputy chairman, to reach a final decision. A public announcement is unlikely, but an explanation detailing MAM's decision is possible after the bid has closed.

City analysts favour Granada to win control of Forte, with the backing of the majority of institutions. However, many small shareholders, with about 15 per cent of Forte, are expected to back the family.

City experts close to MAM said yesterday that they would be "very surprised" if MAM did not back Granada. MAM's decision will be based on fundamental investment issues. Forte's past investment performance, prior to Granada's bid, was at best pedestrian with a realistic return of only about 1 per cent.

MAM's decision will be made after a meeting this morning with Whitbread, the brewery and restaurants group which has agreed to buy Forte's roadside cafes and budget hotels for £1.1 billion. Whitbread would be able to buy shares in the market today to support the Forte camp, but this is unlikely. Analysts say the time to do so was a week ago when the share price was lower.

Granada and Forte are continuing to telephone shareholders in an attempt to bring them onside, and institutional investors will be visited today. A Forte spokesman said last night. "It is extremely close. MAM holds the balance."

The Forte share price closed at 376p on Friday, above the cash offer of 362p but below the value of the bid to institutional investors, who can claim back tax paid on the special dividend of 47p.

Forte announced at the weekend that it has exchanged contracts for the sale of 67 of the 72 White Hart hotels to Regal Hotels Group for £122 million. The deal, made up of £90 million cash and £32 million in redeemable convertible preference shares, is conditional on Regal shareholder approval, the relisting of Regal's shares on the London Stock Exchange and the lapsing of the Granada bid.

Keith Hamill, Forte's finance director, said: "This sale brings us close to a highly successful conclusion of our disposal programme of non-core businesses." But Gerry Robinson, chief executive of Granada, said: "This disposal raises only £90 million in cash plus convertible securities in a small company."

Graham Searjeant, page 38

Sir Rocco Forte keeps up the running battle yesterday

Freedom for Tecs urged in call for £30m savings

By Philip Bassett, Industrial Editor

RADICAL changes in the operation of the business-led Training and Enterprise Councils, which run industrial training in England and Wales, are proposed in a government efficiency study, suggesting savings of more than £30 million.

The recommendations of the study, carried out by the Department for Education and Employment, would give Tecs much greater operational freedom, for which business leaders on their boards have been pressing.

Scepticism about the Tecs' financial accountability and performance has been growing, and last year one Tec collapsed into insolvency.

Strong criticism of Tecs' financial arrangements is expected to be voiced by MPs this week when the Commons Public Accounts Committee publishes, on Wednesday, what is predicted to be a hostile report.

In addition, Tecs are being scrutinised by the Nolan Committee on Standards in Public Life, which is expected in the spring to criticise the so-called "democratic deficit" of the limited representation on Tecs' governing boards. The Commons Employment Select Committee is expected to recommend substantial alterations to Tec operations.

In advance of that, ministers are now studying the DFEE's report into the 81 Tecs in England and Wales, which was prepared in close co-operation with the Cabinet Office. Scotland's equivalent Local Enterprise Councils were not covered by the study.

The findings reflect strong criticism by Tecs of government interference and strong scepticism by the Government about their stand-alone operation.

Tecs currently receive more than £1.5 billion annually from UK public funds, which means that close accountability is inevitable, according to Whitehall officials.

The report — a copy of which has been seen by *The Times* — says that some in Whitehall "tend still to doubt that Tecs can be trusted to do the right thing with taxpayers' money, or to suspect them of putting their own business interests ahead of the achievement of Government objectives, given the chance".

At the same time, the report says that "Tecs tend still to wonder whether the Department is committed to them long term" and to "doubt whether it can resist the temptation to micro-manage them".

Ministers have already told Tec leaders that there will be "no cherry-picking" of the recommendations of the report, which they insist will have to be adopted wholesale. Some Tec leaders are unhappy about some recommendations, but are prepared to swallow their objections to obtain the simplifications especially in funding arrangements that the report proposes.

Reviewing the Tecs' contract with the Government, the study's recommendations include:

☐ Reducing the current 22 different budgets that the Tecs operate to just three, covering youth training, the adult unemployed and all other functions.

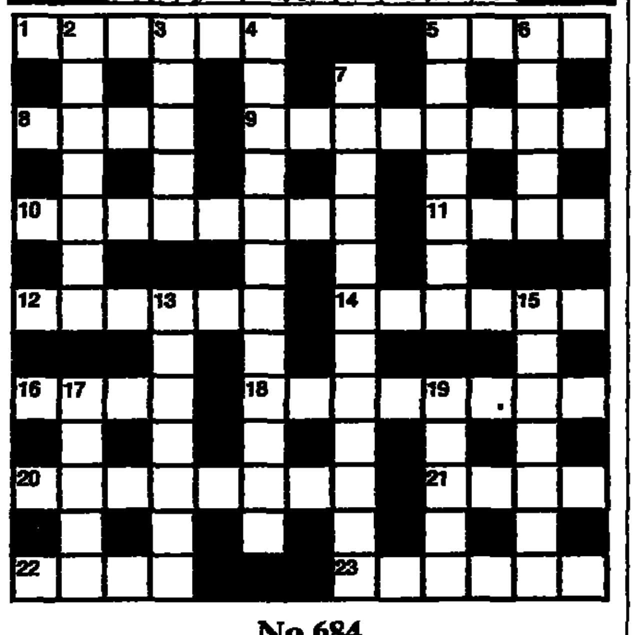
☐ Scrapping the Tecs' management fee system, their performance-related bonuses and the so-called 7.5 per cent limit, under which any operating surpluses on the Tecs' main government training programmes above this level leads to price-capping the following year.

☐ Changes to the Tecs' debenture system, which gives the Government first claim over Tecs' assets, in order to allow Tecs to borrow money on the markets.

☐ Abolishing the attendance recording requirements for youth trainees and others.

The scrutiny report says that its recommendations will yield total savings for the Tecs of £21.9 million, and £13 million for the DFEE, and it proposes that the department should reduce its payments to Tecs by half of any of the savings that arise.

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD



No 684

ACROSS
1 Weak (being ill, old) (6)
5 Concluding passage (*mus.*) (4)
8 Elliptical (4)
9 Extra-luggage holder on car (4-4)
10 Arrow-propulsion tube (8)
11 Wonky (4)
12 Representational sign (6)
14 Detective (6)
16 Object of veneration (4)
18 Three-panel (usu. hinged) picture (8)
20 Austerlitz, Jena victor (8)
21 Prudish, proper (4)
22 Addition sign (4)
23 Projectile; reprimand (6)

DOWN
2 Interesting new item (7)
3 Relation by marriage (2-3)
4 German Reformation leader (6,6)
5 Woman's bouquet; bodice (7)
6 Room furnishing, wallpaper etc (5)
7 Very lucrative activity (5-7)
13 Distasteful; bad-tempered; ill (7)
15 Relating to touch (7)
17 Speak languidly (5)
19 Subject, theme (5)

SOLUTION TO No 683

ACROSS: 4 Ad lib 7 Isolated 8 Limp 9 Gomorrah 10 Tussle 13 Rapier 14 Priest 15 Peseta 18 Millpond 19 Leek 20 Stalwart 21 Erect

DOWN: 1 Milieu 2 Corpus 3 Tangle 4 Advocate 5 Lorraine 6 Bother 11 Slimline 12 Last Post 14 Pimple 15 Puddle 16 Salaam 17 Treaty

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Goldman delays vote on flotation

A WEEKEND meeting of the worldwide partners of Goldman Sachs, the last major partnership on Wall Street, ended yesterday without a vote on whether to take the investment bank public (Richard Thomson writes from New York).

Although a proposal to float all or part of the bank was not rejected, the 174 partners decided to delay a final decision while the idea is more carefully formulated to reconcile conflicting interests within the firm.

Many older partners favour flotation, but younger ones, who have had less time to build up equity in the firm and so would be eligible for less money from flotation, are understood to be less enthusiastic.

Road Management plans bond issue

By Ross Tieman, Industrial Correspondent

A CONSORTIUM that is poised to win the £169 million-plus contract to build two of Britain's first privately funded road schemes is planning a bond issue next month to finance the project.

According to industry sources, the bond issue, which will mark a key step in the development of the Government's £14 billion Private Finance Initiative, will test the City's appetite for paper backed by PFI infrastructure revenues.

Cash from the bond issue will be used to build the £120 million A1(M) Alconbury to Peterborough improvement through John Major's Huntingdon constituency, and the £49 million A417/A419 Cirencester and Stratton bypass.

The contract is understood to have been won by Road Management Group, a consortium made up of Amec, Sir Alfred McAlpine, and Dragedos, the Spanish road operator. The group will issue the bonds backed by a revenue stream to accrue from in effect leasing use of the road to the Highways Agency.

The Department of Transport declined to confirm that a winner had been selected. A spokeswoman said: "Negotiations are ongoing and we will make an announcement shortly."

UK lunchtime eaten away

By Alasdair Murray

BRITISH businessmen have swallowed the view that lunch is for whimps, with three-quarters eating only a sandwich in the office and spending on average just half an hour on the meal, according to a survey published today.

The report by Gardner Merchant Sodexho, the catering company, finds the British, Dutch and Germans consuming the lightest food and spending the least amount of time on lunch. The Dutch spend about half an hour on a light snack, while the Germans take 40 minutes over a canteen meal.

In contrast, lunch is still serious business in France, Spain and Italy with two-thirds of French and Spanish businessmen consuming three courses and the Spanish spending an average of 70 minutes on their meal. A French meal costs £7.80; a Spanish and Italian lunch is about £7.00.

The British and Dutch spend a miserly £2.90 and are least likely to use lunch for business purposes. But 86 per cent of Italians and 78 per cent of Spaniards said lunch was central to business deals.

The Spanish are the most likely to drink at lunchtime with 24 per cent saying that they had a glass of wine every day. This compares with 10 per cent in France and 2 per cent in Britain. No German admitted to a regular lunchtime tipple.

Hopes for exports lift mood

The fall in British business confidence over 18 months appears to have bottomed out and risen modestly on the back of stronger export optimism, according to a survey by Dun & Bradstreet conducted in the first week of January.

However, the small improvement in optimism on net sales, profits and orders has also increased concern about inflation.

Nearly two out of three businesses surveyed said they expected to increase their prices during the first quarter. Also, the outlook for employment continued to worsen.

Bank jobs fear

Union leaders will meet senior managers from Lloyds and TSB banks today amid fears that thousands of jobs will be lost because of the merger of the two banking giants. The Banking Insurance and Finance Union (Bifu) fears that 10,000 jobs could be axed and 650 branches closed and is threatening to oppose a Private Bill in Parliament needed to sanction the deal.

Firm to float

Streamline Holdings, the road services and building products company that was the subject of a management buyout from Shell three years ago, is to be floated through a placing with institutional investors. The float will raise new cash and ease debt.

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